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JOURNALS AND DIARIES

OF THE

ASSISTANTS TO THE RESIDENT AT LAHORE,

1846-1849.

JOURNALS

AND

DIARIES

OF THE

ASSISTANTS TO THE AGENT, GOVERNOR-GENERAL

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER

AND

RESIDENT AT LAHORE

1846-1849

PRINTED AT THE PIONEER PRESS
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The present volume is one of a series of selections from the Punjab Government records which have been published by the Punjab Government. The volumes constituting the series are—

The Delhi Residency and Agency Records ... 1807-1857, Volume I.

The Ludhiana Agency Records, 1808-1815, Volume II.

The Political Diaries of the Resident at Lahore and his Assistants ... 1846-1849, Volumes III—VI.

The Mutiny Records—Correspondence and Reports ... 1857-1858, Volumes VII and VIII each in two Parts.

It had been intended to issue further volumes also, dealing with (*a*) the records of the Karnal, Ambala and Ludhiana Agencies (including the despatches of Sir D. Ochterlony, Superintendent of Political Affairs and Agent to the Governor-General at Ludhiana, and the diaries of his Assistant, Captain G. Birch), 1816—1840 ; (*b*) the records of the North-West Frontier Agency, 1840—1845, and (*c*) those of the Lahore Residency, 1846—1849 ; but it has been found necessary on financial grounds to postpone the publication of these further papers.

The material for the volumes issued has been prepared and put through the Press by Mr. A. Raynor, late Registrar of the Punjab Civil Secretariat.

Lahore :

December 1915.

PREFACE.

THE treaties executed with the Lahore Darbar after the first Sikh War provided *inter alia* for the location of a British garrison at Lahore until the end of the year 1846, to assist in the reconstitution of a satisfactory administration. Major (shortly afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel) H. M. Lawrence remained at Lahore as Agent to the Governor-General in charge of the political relations of the British Government with the Darbar.

2. This arrangement continued until the Treaty of Bhairowal executed in December 1846, when the Lahore Government, in return for the continued service of the British garrison, agreed to admit of more direct supervision during the minority of the Maharaja. Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Lawrence was then made Resident as well as Agent to the Governor-General for the North-West Frontier, and this continued to be the designation of the appointment until the 6th March 1848, when it was altered to that of Resident at Lahore and Chief Commissioner of the Cis- and Trans- Sutlej States.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Lawrence held the office of Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, and Resident at Lahore, from the 1st January to the 30th November 1847, when he proceeded on sick leave to Europe. He had been absent at Simla from the 21st of August to the 17th of October 1847, during which period Mr. J. Lawrence, Commissioner and Superintendent of the Trans-Sutlej States, acted as Resident and Agent to the Governor-General in addition to his other duties. Mr. J. Lawrence took charge

again on Colonel Lawrence's departure and officiated as Resident and Agent to the Governor-General until relieved, on the 6th March 1848, by Sir F. Currie under the designation of Resident at Lahore and Chief Commissioner of the Cis- and Trans- Sutlej States. Sir F. Currie was in charge when the second Sikh War broke out in April 1848. On March 29th, 1849, the Punjab was annexed and the Government passed into the hands of the Board of Administration composed of Sir H. Lawrence, Mr. J. Lawrence and Mr. C. Mansel.

4. The work done by the Assistants to the Resident in the interval between the Sikh Wars and during the progress of the second Sikh War is the main subject of this and the two succeeding volumes. The officers with whom the present volume is chiefly concerned are Captain James Abbott and Major George St. P. Lawrence, two of the older men among the Assistants of the day, the former being 40 and the latter 43 years of age in 1847. Captain (afterwards Sir James) Abbott was for a long time connected with the Hazara District, the head-quarters station of which (Abbottabad) was called after his name, and died in the year 1896. Major Lawrence, the elder brother of Henry and John Lawrence, experienced many adventures in both the Afghan and the Sikh Wars and was Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana during the Mutiny. He died in 1884.

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JOURNALS AND DIARIES

OF

CAPTAIN J. ABBOTT

1846—1849.

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Note.—No other Journals by Captain Abbott for the year 1846 are traceable in the Punjab records.

1.—Journal of Captain J. Abbott, Commissioner for the settlement of the Punjaub Boundaries, from the 5th to the 19th April 1846.

5th April 1846.—Arrived at Rae ke puttun on the right or northern bank of the Beyass. Learn that the Dewan, Adjoodhia Pershaud, and the Bukshee, Goor Narain, are encamped at Undora. I wrote yesterday to advise them of my movements.

6th April.—The Lahore Commissioners above named here last night and have just called upon me. They decline any definite answer as to the result of their enquiries regarding the limits of Noorpoor; but gave me to understand that the investigation is still afoot. They presented me on the part of the Lahore Government with a purse of 250 Nanuc Shaee rupees, which I have carried to account of Government and they sent food for my establishment and escort. Employed this day in collecting information.

7th April.—Moved to Badpoor five miles down the Beyass. Assembled all the Native Officers and old inhabitants I could collect and took their depositions.

8th April.—I again pressed Adjoodhia Pershaud for a distinct answer as to his views regarding the boundary hereabouts of Noorpoor. In reply he called upon me with a native map of Noorpoor just constructed informing me that he had heard that Purgunnahs Undora and Khirun had at one time belonged to the Kunhiyas, a Sikh principality in the Julundhur. He declined producing as yet any evidence, and allowed that at present the report was a mere rumour. I replied that I had already taken the depositions of all the Native Officers of Purgunnah Khirun and that it was unanimous in contradicting his suggestion that either Khirun or Undora had ever been alienated from Noorpoor; that their evidence was strengthened by that of all the authorities hitherto tangible of neighbouring districts, but that I would patiently investigate any evidence he could

adduce upon the other side. He evaded any distinct answer, but said he would abide by my decision. I begged him to perfect his chain of evidence and then to give me intimation.

9th April 1846.—Took the deposition of Goorbuj, Chowdry of Undora, and again examined all the mooquddums of Khirun and several old Gosynes. It appears that Jye Singh, founder of the Kunhiyas, exacted tribute from many of the neighbouring principalities including Noorpoor in the time of Raja Prithee Singh; that he sometimes crossed the Beyass and harried Khirun and Undora in default of the Noorpoor tribute; and that disputes between his zumeendars and those of the purgunnahs aforesaid were frequent owing to the frequent change of the course of the Beyass. It appears also that Mae Sudda Konwr (widow of Goorbuksh Singh) at the head of an army seized Khirun and held possession a whole year when her troops were driven out and the purgunnah was recovered by the Noorpoor Raja aided by the Kuttotch Chief. All, however, distinctly deny that either Khirun or Undora was ever disjoined from the Noorpoor Principality or ever held as a farm by the Noorpoor Raja, according to the suggestion of the Dewan. It appears to me that even had it been proved that Khirun and Undora had been possessions of the Kunhiyas, our claim to them as dependencies of the Julundhur would still be valid, the Kunhiyas being a principality of that Dooab, of which the seat of Government was at Hajepoor.

11th April.—Marched to Undora. The Dewan again sent my establishments a Ziafut and to me a purse of 250 Nanuc Shaee rupees which I passed to account of Government. I remonstrated against this needless expense and insisted that it should not be repeated.

Took the evidence of the Talpoora Chowdry and others to the effect above described. There does not appear to exist a doubt as to these facts. This being a day of pilgrimage and lustration I could procure little evidence.

12th April.—(Sunday).

13th April.—Completed the attainable evidence upon the question under consideration and took that of several zumeendars and others as to the western boundary of Noorpoor. This seems without contro-

versy to have been, in the reign of Bir Singh, the last Noorpoor Raja, the bed of the torrent Chaunj (چونچ) excluding the 27 villages (so-called) of Meerthul and Nungul and those of Gurrota, 12 in number, all lying within the plexus of the Chukki.

14th April 1846.—Marched to Meerthul in the fork of the Chukki and Chaunj. Made preparations for the *todah bundie* of those portions of the boundary which, owing to the shifting of the torrent, pass through ploughed fields. Generally the torrent itself, although now dry, forms by its bed of rock a distinct limit. The channel is here half a mile wide and the basin of the torrent double that measurement; it emerges from the hills on the north-east and falls into the Beyass about two miles eastward of the mouth of the Chukki. It is a very imperfect and inconvenient frontier boundary, running almost dry, even during the rains, in the course of an hour or two and being easily passable at all other seasons. Meerthul is a jaghir, valued at 5,000 rupees of yearly revenue. It is high, healthy and one of the coolest sites hereabouts benefiting by the widely scattered waters of the Beyass. It has a Gurhee of mud upon an eminence. The Jaghirdar, Alum Singh, is styled Vuzzier, being son of the Vuzzier of Kotela, who received this estate as an equivalent for the surrender of that fort to Runjeet Singh. The basin of the Chukki near its mouth is about two miles wide. The channel is half a mile, the stream at present no more than 40 yards, and ankle deep. It would form a good boundary to our territory in this quarter.

15th April.—Took further depositions respecting the boundary hereabouts to the same effect as the preceding. Despatched a Moonshee in company with one from the Dewan to erect temporary *todahs* upon the boundary, with a view to its survey.

16th April.—Settling the direction of the boundary and taking evidence as to its progress after quitting the torrent Chaunj. It appears that it then crosses over to the Chukki through arable land.

17th April.—My intention of marching to-day was frustrated by the arrears of survey work, partly delay by the *todah bundie* and partly by our having here a double line. The Dewan sent me a mason to erect permanent boundary pillars, but I ordered the zumeendars not to do so without further and special instructions from me.

18th April 1846.—Marched to Jhundree, where the boundary leaves the torrent's bed and strikes through cultivated land. Took further depositions of the zumeendars on either side and sent the Moonshees to erect *todahs*. The Chaunj issues from low hills at Mulote, a mile further north. Took a series of bearings from these heights. Five small canals or runnels are here led out of the Chaunj—three through Undora of Noorpoor and two through Nungul. They entirely drain the torrent.

19th April.—Although this is Sunday I am obliged to take the evidence of the zumeendars here assembled that they be not needlessly harassed. This engaged me the whole day.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Commissioner, Frontier Settlements, Punjaub.

2.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Commissioner for the adjustment of the Frontier, Punjaub, from the 22nd April to the 7th May 1846—(Part 2nd).

22nd April 1846.—Marched by the boundary pillars set up to define the Noorpoor Estates. A worse boundary cannot be imagined, its course the most irregular and its features the mere divisions of ploughed fields or imaginary lines through waste land across the drainage of the country to the Chukki. The Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud sent me again, on part of the Lahore Government, a purse of 280 rupees and a supply of food for the establishment. I found it impossible to reject it without giving offence. Carried it to account of Government after deducting 10 rupees given as a present to the Moonshee who bore it.

23rd April.—Visited the castle of Pathankot, the strength of which had been greatly exaggerated to me. It is built upon rising ground eastward of and touching the town. The area is therefore almost filled with solid earth and the walls within afford no seraies nor stables by their vaulted ramparts. They are of kucha mortar, of the age of Shah Jehan, and too thin to admit of freely traversing or having guns placed upon the towers. They are much worn by time and the elements. The

city gives cover to their foot and on the north is a table eminence as high as the site within. Its only ditch on the town side is almost effaced and the gateway is not so strongly defended as in most forts of India. Swivel guns, 9- and 6-pounders, might be made to play from the tower with a little contrivance. But I found none within, and the extent of the garrison is a small thanna. The centre of the enclosure, which is the highest ground, is occupied by a square tower of four storeys, the interior of which consists of a court for men and a second for women, having apartments and verandahs all around and a small well in the inner court. The gateway is a high tower containing a few small but airy rooms. The site is salubrious, and were the central tower repaired it would afford good barracks for perhaps a company of Sipahis. It is one of those castles which could not keep a British force out many hours, but might prove a nuisance upon our immediate frontier by encouraging robbers in their malpractices under the shelter of its supposed strength. It commands the only carriage road from the Julundhur to Noorpoor. The country around is an amphitheatre of the richest cultivation, profusely watered by sluices from the Chukki and girdled by masses of dark mountain topped by the snowy range.

23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th April 1846.—Engaged in taking the evidence of the zumeendars of Pathankot, Shoojanpoor and Shahpoor as to their respective boundaries now and in times past. It appears from concurrent testimony that in the reign of Aurungzebe, the younger brother of the Noorpoor Raja turning Muhummedan received from the Emperor as a separate possession all the lands of Noorpoor westward of the Chukki river, and then designated Shahpoor. The Rajas of Shahpoor were for distinction termed Pythaneas. Qusbah Pathankot, however, which lies within the Shahpoor boundary had long been appropriated by the Emperors as a thanna, for which its position well fits it, and Shah Jehan built the castle there. On the rise of the Kunhiya family, large portions of Shahpoor were seized by them and Shoojanpoor was constructed out of these fragments. When Prithee Singh succeeded to the principality of Noorpoor he took occasion, of the death of the Shahpoor Raja, to re-annex as much of his ancestral possessions, as the rise of other States had left to Shahpoor, and he bequeathed these with Noorpoor as a single principality to his son, Bir

Singh. They remained his until he was seized by the late Maharaja Runjeet Singh and the principality was annihilated.

The boundary therefore of Noorpoor, after running about 8 miles up the Chukki, crosses that river between Hara of Shahpoor and Traiti Boongul of Pathankot, and by a most irregular and undefined zigzag of 13 miles runs across to the Ravi at Shahpoor Khas. The three purgunnahs of Lukkunpoor, Chundgiran and Teh belonging to Shahpoor lie along the Ravi's right bank further down its course. The highest estimate of the nett revenue of these is 17,000 rupees.

This boundary is manifestly inconvenient, but it will be difficult to improve it, on account of the superior value of the lands of Pathankot and Soojhanpoor, which it would be necessary to include to get a more suitable line. Pathankot alone has a nett revenue of 17,090 rupees, which, added to the land it seems necessary to include of Nungul, Gurrota and Meerthul, valued at 8,000 rupees, gives 25,090 rupees worth of land to be purchased by equivalents.

27th April 1846.—Having been obliged to work very hard all yesterday (Sunday) that the zumeendars in attendance might not longer be detained from their homes, I gave the establishment this day the benefit of the Sabbath.

28th April.—Received instructions from Major Lawrence, Governor-General's Agent, to meet him at Deennanuggur.

29th and 30th April.—Attending the Governor-General's Agent at Deennanuggur.

1st May.—Returned to Pathankot. Employed in making enquiries during the day and in plotting the sketch map. By direction of Major Lawrence sent two companies of the Sikh Regiment here encamped to assist Captain Saunder's Detachment in guarding the treasure from Jammoo. In the afternoon rode over the country in search of a suitable feature for a boundary line. Found a dry torrent's bed which runs diagonally across the space between the Ravi and Chukki rivers, joining the canal at about three miles from its contact with the Chukki. I fear it may enclose too large a tract of land. The survey work is very much in arrears. Europeans cannot do much in this weather. I cannot suffer them to sleep in the villages far from camp in the

present state of things, and the journey to and from their work occupies much time and labor. Sent out a Moonshee for intelligence.

2nd May 1846.—Sent Lieutenant Young, who for some days has been laid up with an ulcerated leg, to Noorpoor for medical advice. Employed in collecting the jumma bundies of Pathankot.

3rd May.—(Sunday).

4th May.—Marched to Shoojanpoor three koss and encamped on the Shah Nehr or Hussilli, a rapid and beautiful stream which runs almost due south from the Ravi until it touches the Chukki and then turns south-west through Deennanuggur. There is a small Baradurrie here in a shady spot one mile from the next town of Shoojanpoor. The lands are rich and well watered. The water of the canal even at this season is cold. The canal would have formed a desirable continuation to the Chukki as our boundary, had not the included lands been too rich to find an equivalent amongst those of ours which are disposable. It is my present endeavour to discover some water-course or other feature, by which the vague line of frontier between Shahpoor and Shoojanpoor may be avoided. I have collected as much evidence as possible, but must visit the whole of the lands hereabouts ere I can feel confident in any decision. Lieutenant Robinson is to-day laid up with a bilious attack so that the survey is at a pause.

5th May.—Traced up to their issue from the hills the more considerable of two stony water-courses: out until 11 A.M. I have great hope that this may prove a suitable boundary as it rises on the bounds of Qusbah Shahpoor and runs into the canal below Shoojanpoor. Lieutenant Lake joined me to-day from Noorpoor.

6th May.—Took the evidence of all the zumeendars whose lands adjoin the water-course surveyed yesterday. It generally forms the boundary between Shoojanpoor and Pathankot, but would shut in some of the former villages. Surveyed the canal up to its rise from the Ravi, the bed of which is very deep and wide, the river trickling through it in two or three seeming rills. The canal rushes boiling out with the force of a torrent and appears to swallow up nearly the whole of the Ravi's water. Lieutenant Robinson is still unwell. Lieutenant Young, who has returned from Noorpoor, is still unfit for duty and my work proceeds under every disadvantage.

7th May 1846.—I found that the water-course I have been surveying cannot be made answerable for a boundary on account of the great extent and value of the additional area enclosed by it, for which we can offer no equivalent. Took the accounts of many zumeendars and others as to the existence of any suitable ravine or water-course, but without finding any clue. Another Moonshee or Kardar on the part of Maharaja Goolab Singh waited upon me to-day. The great distance of the boundary from any village which can supply my camp is very inconvenient at this season: even water is scarce in the villages thereabouts. I have laid a dak which I trust will enable me thoroughly to examine the whole line of boundary.

SHOOJANPOOR: *8th May 1846.* — J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN, *Commissioner, Frontier Settlements, Punjaub.*

3.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 1st to the 17th May 1846.

1st May 1846.—Returned to Pathankot from Deennanuggur. Employed during the rest of the day in making enquiries as to the local divisions and geographic features of the country. By direction of the Governor-General's Agent caused two companies of the Sikh Regiment here encamped to be placed under the orders of the British Officer Commanding the Treasure Escort, during his continuance in the Sikh territory. In the evening rode across the country with compass and perambulator and discovered a stony ravine, three miles northward, which joins the canal at Bhadoor Lari and may possibly prove convenient as a boundary line. The survey is so backward for want of instruments and native surveyors (little at this season being possible to Europeans) that I am much impeded in my arrangements and derive little help from the survey. Lieutenant Young moreover is laid up with a sore leg and must be sent to Noorpoor for medical advice.

2nd May.—Collecting information as to the jummas of the Pathankot villages, a matter not easy where the collections are made in kind and no records are obtainable.

3rd May 1846.—(Sunday).—Lieutenant Young returned from Noorpoor. But his leg is too much inflamed to allow him to use it for many days to come.

4th May.—Marched to the Baradurrie at Shoojanpoor, four miles. The canal, a very rapid stream about 30 feet wide and of very various depth, passes under the Baradurrie at mid-course for the Chukki, which it originally joined. The water has, however, been diverted from this termination in the direction of Deennanuggur, the work I believe of the Emperors, as the original canal was of the Rajpootras. Engaged in enquiries relative to the villages on the banks of the canal and those bordering the ravine lately discovered. This ravine is generally a boundary to villages and almost to the two purgunnahs of Pathankot and Shoojanpoor. But the canal almost invariably divides villages; so that it were an inconvenient boundary line even did it not enclose 20,000 rupees worth more land than we have the means of paying for.

5th May.—Rode up the larger of the ravines to its commencement in the hills. Returned at 11½ A.M. It is a distinct feature, but does not always follow the line of the purgunnah or village bounds. The deviation, however, would not be a sufficient objection to it, should it not prove to enclose too much land. Its source is contiguous to the boundary of Qusbah Shahpoor upon the Ravi. Lieutenant Lake joined me this morning. Instructed the zumeendars of villages on either side the ravine to attend me to-morrow to give particulars of their bounds. A single native surveyor would save me much vexatious delay and difficulty. But tho' I have written to all, who may possibly assist me, to procure such a person, I am not yet provided.

6th May.—Engaged from morning till evening in taking the testimony of the zumeendars bordering the ravine. I fear that it will not be possible to make it our boundary, for it encloses rather more than the entire purgunnah of Pathankot, and this without Jaghirs is valued at 17,090 rupees yearly rent; whereas after paying 8,000 rupees for the lands we have enclosed by the Chukki, there are only 9,000 rupees worth of lands left beyond the Ravi to give in exchange. Even the smaller ravine, which encloses less land, takes in more, I fear, than can be paid for, and is otherwise awkward as constituting in no

part a local division and as commencing at a considerable distance from the Ravi (about eight miles). The survey of this tract not being half finished, I must at once proceed to the spot and ascertain whether any feature exists of which advantage can be taken. The difficulty at this season is owing to the want of water and supplies in the villages.

7th May 1846.—Sent out a tent for the above purpose and examined all the zumeendars bordering the Durrungh ravine. Their testimony confirms my previous intelligence. Took the jummas of Shoojanpoor and compared the estimate with that given by the zumeendars. The villages of Shoojanpoor, eastward of the canal, pay a yearly rent of about 12,000 rupees.

8th May.—Rode out to Hara and from thence along the whole course of the boundary between the Shahpoor villages and those of Pathankot and Shoojanpoor. The line crosses ravines and fields without reference to any geographic feature, eventually emerging into the plain at Jhundrah. It crosses seven or eight large torrents. There seems to exist no question as to its course; but it is defined by no visible line. By building boundary pyramids upon this line, it would remain undisputed, although no map would define it.

9th May.—Visited a mountain ridge, of which I had ascertained the existence, connecting the rivers Ravi and Chukki. Found it a lofty and precipitous ridge unoccupied by fields or habitations and forming the boundary between purgunnahs north and south of it. The villages of Shahpoor, which we should give up were this made the boundary, have a yearly rent of 9,509 rupees, or about 1,509 more than the villages we have taken with Meerthul. This would leave 17,000 rupees worth of villages beyond the Ravi, exchangeable for Chumba or any other possessions we might deem requisite for our frontier. The villages beyond the Ravi at our disposal being Hill States, should naturally, if exchanged, fall to Raja Goolab Singh. Received yesterday a letter from Major Lawrence directing me to repair to Kangra: returned therefore to Shoojanpoor. The castle of Shahpoor occupies the verge of a cliff of pudding-stone about 150 feet high, washed by the Ravi. It has no walls on the riverside. The other three sides consist of walls of tolerable height flanked by towers, of which several are solid, as batteries for each a single gun. The

form is an oblong. Inland the country is tolerably level, but the town at no great distance stands on higher ground. It is stronger than Pathankot and would enable an outpost to defend itself against any irregular attack, but is a mere castle and was built by the first Raja of Shahpoor for his residence. There is a long barrack of two storeys near the precipice which would shelter a company of Europeans or Natives. The walls are of stone and mortar. The body of water in the Ravi is not, I think, greater than that in the Beyass, but the velocity of the Ravi is more than double that of the Beyass and its water is extremely cold. Soon after leaving the mountains at Shahpoor it divides into many small streams, one of which supplies the canal.

10th May 1846.—Marched to Doomtul and encamped there.

11th May.—Marched to Undora. We had been informed that the Artillery were crossing at this place, but find that they are at Rae ke puttun. Wrote to the Officer Commanding Artillery asking whether the company of Sappers could be of use, supposing that a bridge of boats was under construction.

12th May.—Marched to Bandpoor.

13th May.—Marched to Rae ke puttun and, finding that no bridge was to be constructed, camped at Jukhur at the mouth of the pass with the view to precede the Artillery and prepare the passes for its passage.

14th May.—Commenced the ascent of the torrent's bed, which the first five miles is open, smooth and of easy acclivity, but afterwards very rugged and intricate for about two miles, winding through cliffs of sandstone and pudding-stone. I found it utterly impracticable to Artillery in draught, the rocks projecting so as to render necessary those nice and abrupt turns which are impossible to guns dragged with difficulty up an ascent: as the guns were expected on the third day, no time was to be lost, so I halted the Sappers and set them to work on the spot for about six hours.

15th May.—Resumed work in the pass at 3 A.M. and continued it until noon. Being this day better provided with tools and above all with gunpowder, we effected much in removing or shattering rocks and rounding off impassable edges of cliffs: and whilst at work

Lieutenant Drummond of Engineers, who had most promptly answered my demand for aid, arrived with another Sapper Company and resumed the work, which we were obliged to quit after midday.

16th May 1846.—At work again in the pass at 1 o'clock A.M., but a less dangerous road over the summit of the first ascent. I cannot speak in too high terms of the zeal and ingenuity of Lieutenant Robinson of Engineers and the Sappers of the 3rd Company. Lieutenant Young also set an excellent example. The work was very severe owing to the brevity of the interval we could command, and the want of levers, or a sufficient number of mining tools, rendered it necessary to shatter many of the rocks with sledge hammers. At daybreak this morning the pass was practicable to battering guns, and the first 9-pounder of the Jallalabad Field Battery had passed through all the intricacies of the defile in spite of the wretched riding of the natives who rode its fine horses. The 24-pounder Howitzer in rounding a dangerous corner at an intemperate pace rolled over with its horses into the ravine. No lives were lost. I set to work at this spot to hollow out more of the rocky cliff, for although there were several feet of spare room, it is impossible always to make riders or drivers prudent, and I was anxious to have a more open road for the siege ordnance. At 11 o'clock the Sappers were utterly exhausted, having been at work 10 hours. I therefore applied to the Officer Commanding a Detachment of Sipahis for a working party. He placed one at my disposal, but not a Sipahi would touch either axe or *mamootie*. They even suffered me to work with my own hands upon the cliff with the utmost indifference. I called to the Soobahdar commanding the party to set his men to work. He replied that his Sipahis would do anything else in the world, but that such work was degrading to a Sipahi. I desired him to remain at home with the women and not presume to come amongst men. The poor exhausted Sappers tried to insist upon relieving me, but I sent them to their camp and continued to work for some time in front of the Sipahis without their evincing any disposition to do their duty. My chuprassi wished to take the axe. But I told him he was not a soldier and that none but soldiers should share in this labor; that this was the first parallel to the attack of Kangra and the first opportunity of displaying manhood. On this the second Soobahdar, Jungli Khan, took up an axe and joined me, and all the Sipahis

followed his example in succession. I told them I now perceived them to be soldiers and not soldiers' wives. Finally, the first Soobahdar was so ashamed of himself that he also took an axe and joined us. I now praised and encouraged them, and the work was completed by 1 o'clock, in good time for the first siege gun. I have detailed this circumstance, because I have long anxiously watched the progress of indulgence in the Native Army tending, I think, at every step to render the Sipahi less hardy, less useful and less manageable than heretofore. Were the construction of field works part of the yearly exercise of the soldier, such effeminate scruples as the above would never possess him. The hardihood and gallantry which has ever so especially distinguished the Native Sapper is an undoubted proof that his spirit undergoes no rebuff from the exercise of this soldierly duty. I must add that a young officer of the corps who came up whilst the party were working incited them by his personal example. The first 18-pounder being without elephant shafts was dragged through the pass with the utmost difficulty. The fine elephant which pushed the wheel, having no frontlet, was much scratched and cut by its exertions. It reached the first summit when night had closed in. I then returned to my camp.

17th May 1846.—Early this morning two parties of Sappers under Lieutenants Robinson and Young recommenced work, the one to soften the angles of the pass, the other to reconstruct a bridge burnt during the night by the combustion of the jungle. The remainder of the siege ordnance came through with comparative ease, the 18-pounders being perfectly manageable with elephant shafts and much having been effected by Lieutenant Robinson in the early morning.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

4.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 18th to the 31st May 1846.

18th May 1846.—Marched to Lunj, 16 miles in the basin of the Guj river or torrent. The road had been cleared by Lieutenants Drummond and Dyas of the larger boulders (the principal obstruction) to within 2½ miles of Lunj and was completed to Lunj by evening. It crosses and recrosses the torrent at every quarter mile in 2½ feet water, with a

bed of boulders that form a most heavy pavement for wheels on the ascent and are most trying to the feet of cattle, especially of those which are shod. The boulders become larger and more plentiful as we progress, and huge masses of granitic rock begin to appear as obstacles.

19th May 1846.—Received instructions to hasten to Kangra with one Engineer Officer and ten Sappers. Left Lieutenant Robinson with his company in the pass and pressed on to Kangra. Found Mr. Potter at work in the pass with 350 coolies. He seems to be exerting himself zealously. The pass becomes more savage and intricate. The rocks can be removed only by blasting, and in some places are so large and so numerous that it is found easier to fill up their interstices with layers of boulders and earth, thus building a causeway over them. This lasts about four miles farther, when I took a ravine which Mr. Potter supposed to be the gun road, but which the Engineers with good judgment avoided, as, although straighter and smoother than the bed of the Guj, it climbs over a needless ascent of about 250 feet. Reached Kangra at 1 P.M., and was placed at the disposal of Brigadier Smith for Engineer duties.

20th—29th May.—Employed in reconnoitring. Kôt Kangra is a long ridge of rock and upwards of a mile in length by an average breadth of 120 yards. The rivers Ban Gunga and Bunnair, meeting after an almost parallel course through deep and wide chasms, give it a peninsular form and its neck is almost severed by ravines on either side. The rock, which is pudding-stone, presents inaccessible cliffs almost continuously throughout its circuit, but at the postern on the south-west these are softened into an abrupt declivity. The northern portion of this ridge rises high above the rest, giving site to the palace and the principal works of the fortress. These consist of a higher and a lower line of battlements and towers, with a long screen for the road into the fortress, the two lower works being upon rock of such stiff acclivity as to be generally inaccessible to the human foot. Five gates guarded with towers must be forced to enter the first enclosure, and the further access to the palace is impeded by one strong gate and several of inferior solidity. The second, which is the principal line of defence, is a precipitous rock of about 20 feet faced with squared stone masonry of more than eight feet thickness, the stones being often cramped together with iron. This facing becomes a battlement to

about five feet above the rock The rest of the area of the palace is guarded by a single and less solid circle of wall and tower cresting the precipice. But on the north-east the cliffs are so formidable that no battlements have been added. The town of Kangra, built upon the same ridge, northward of the fort, is separated from it by the eastern disconnecting ravine, prolonged by human labour in the form of a considerable ditch to the corresponding ravine on the west. The site of the town affords ground for batteries and cover to within 250 yards. The cliffs opposite the postern offer a commanding position of about the same distance, and a spur of land on the north-west enfilades the principal defences on the town side at 600 yards of distance. I from the first considered the postern as the most assailable point, and was honored with the command of the Irregular Force destined for its attack. I conceived that a dozen good guns in position on the opposite cliff would speedily render the single line of works untenable. The gun road thither, though difficult, could soon be made practicable. The direct approach without passing under the battlements seemed to me tolerably accessible. The battlements were evidently far less solid than those on the town side. Our position commanded the whole interior on that side owing to the slope of the fortified hill toward us. Once within this wall, there was a thick jungle of trees giving cover to the very foot of the palace, which a bag of gunpowder would instantly demolish, and the quantity of wall to be brought down to win an entrance at the postern was comparatively trifling. Whilst proceeding to my new post the garrison came out without their arms upon assurance of mercy. Their number was very small and that of their women and children almost equalled it. No one could regret having been saved a victory over such unequal numbers and the bloodshedding of so many defenceless beings. We found the postern weaker than even my anticipation. A vaulted passage whose top is a wide causeway leads down to the river Bunnair. Parallel with it southward is a steep but practicable footpath defended from stones by the trunk of a peepul tree. The towers above are cracked and rickety and the slopes we purposed to clamber over at the battered necks quite practicable.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

5.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 1st to the 15th June 1846.

1st June 1846.—Started on my return to my duties *viâ* Noorpoor. Camped at Rilloo, the head of a small principality, long since absorbed in Chumba. Put up in a shed or dhurmsala. The first four miles of road are good, being that prepared for the siege train. After descending into the Guj river by the excellent gun road, it became a mere footpath coursing through rice terraces, then crossing several ravines of considerable depth and difficulty, but all reducible to suit wheeled carriages.

The Shah Rah, I find, does not pass through Rilloo, but about 2½ miles south of it. Rilloo is a large village. Its castle stands upon a woody hill about 200 feet above it. It is commanded within Field Gun range by perfectly accessible ground. It is a small but very massive building of five towers, one of which is solid and will bear a gun. The walls are of stone and mortar five feet thick. The interior is divided into three tiers of galleries open to the court. It has three considerable cisterns, filled with water carried up from a neighbouring well. The two guns, once here, have been removed. The sole entrance is a square hole in the northern curtain, about six feet from the earth and ascended by a removable ladder. It has no ditch. The structure is new—a mere castle, though of solid material.

2nd June.—Rilloo.—The baggage not having reached Rilloo by night, owing to the road, a halt is inevitable. Mr. Hardinge, Private Secretary to the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General, accompanied by Dr. Walker, arrived yesterday from Cashmere.

3rd June.—Marched early this morning and put up at the traveller's bungalow in the town of Kotla. The road which all natives had described as so excellent proves to be barely practicable to camels and not to ours at all in their weakly condition. It is a succession of chasms and rugged ravines, mostly cut into steps and paved at great expense. These steps could in most cases be softened into ramps for guns. But the toil must always be great. An easier road avoids Tilloknath by passing through Jangul, Bug, Rujjôl and Dhuddoon. It needs repair. On the road I saw growing in the same woods the oak, the pear, the saymul or cotton tree, the mango and goollur. Raspberries, pink and yellow, were ripening in the hedges. Yet we have

descended considerably from Rilloo, which is at the very base of the snowy chain. The camels being unable to come on loaded, I have procured with difficulty a few coolies and sent them back for the baggage.

4th and 5th June 1846.—The baggage is slowly passing, upon coolies, this most difficult road, a guard having been sent to Jontai to receive it, as it arrives piecemeal. I received charge of the Fort yesterday on my arrival, it having been vacated by the garrison the day previous. Captain Apthorp and a company of the 41st arrived at 10 A.M. from Noorpoor to garrison Kotla and to him I delivered the keys.

The town of Kotla lies along the right bank of the torrent Dheer. A ravine and small stream immediately below it, and another very deep ravine a quarter of a mile lower down, meeting the Dheer, give a peninsular shape to a huge mass of sand and pudding-stone, and this forms the site of the fortress.

The precipices are very formidable on the further side from the town and toward the river Dheer. But as the surface of the mass follows the dip of the sandstone strata toward the town their height on that side is less considerable and near the gate they are not impracticable. The weak point, however, is the neck of the peninsula, which is merely indented with an accessible ravine separating the Fort from a hill upon which guns can be planted within a hundred yards of the walls and on a level with them. The hills around are within field gun range, and from beyond the river a long line of works might be enfiladed at about 700 yards. The citadel adds nothing to the strength of the place. The plunging fire from the elevated batteries might gall a distant enemy unwise enough to expose himself to it. But there are abundance of covered approaches to the place, and once beneath it, its Artillery is powerless. Weak, however, as we may deem it, no Native Power would venture to storm it, if garrisoned by us. It has a spring of excellent water and the gateway is not above 60 or 70 feet above the copious stream of the Dheer. The elevation is considerable, equal I think to Kangra, and the climate is very pleasant, although the position of the place amongst rugged ravines is disagreeable.

The quantity of wheat in store is very great and the gun ammunition plentiful. The guns, seven in number, are with one exception light

field pieces. The exception, a long brass gun, carries a ball of about 6 lbs. All are of somewhat rude construction, composed partly of brass and partly of iron. There is but one wall piece visible; whereas the rifled wall piece is the Artillery best adapted to the defence of such places. These at 400 yards are more deadly than field pieces, and being transferable from parapet to parapet, requiring no embrasure nor any stability of platform, can baffle the fire of guns in battery. But to be efficient they must be of sufficient weight and solidity to carry half a pound of lead with two ounces of powder. A second company of the 41st arrived to-day from Noorpoor. The two companies, with a few Artillerymen, might hold the place for some time. But it would require at least 400 men to do justice to it. The two companies, however, can at present scarcely find shelter in the existing huts. It will be seen that Kotla does not in reality guard the communication between Noorpoor and Kangra, it being avoided by the detour noted in the route map.

6th June 1846.—Marched to Khooshnuggur, a spring with trees about a mile short of the city of Noorpoor. This place, a city in size, a village in appearance and in the quality of its merchandise, is situated upon the neck of a projecting cliff of sandstone, the extremity of which affords site to the castle. The small rivulet Jubbur flows about 400 feet below the Fort, affording a scanty supply of water at the expense of much labour to the garrison and citizens. The habits of the people are framed accordingly and ablutions are rare amongst them. The town is chiefly peopled with exiles from Cashmere who readily turn their hands to any trade, but are principally shawl weavers. They are a robust race, hovering in feature between Afghaun and Tartar, as dark as the natives of Upper India, but limbed like Englishmen. The ordinary wages of a shawl weaver, who cannot weave until he can read, is two annas a day or four rupees per month, and it is marvellous that upon such a pittance the strength of their frames can be nourished. The castle of Noorpoor has the precipice at the foot of about $\frac{1}{3}$ of its walls; strips of level table elsewhere. The city gives cover almost to the walls. It has no effective ditch; is a simple quadrangle flanked at intervals with towers, but on the eastern face a circular ravelin has been thrown out to flank the gateway. It is the weakest place bearing the name of fort that I have ever seen. Yet such is the respect of natives for lofty walls of masonry that it has never, I believe, been taken by siege

or escalade. It has no water, its cisterns being filled by sending pukkauls to the river. This deficiency might be abated by boring for springs. The sandstone rock is very porous and easily worked. The town might be supplied in three different ways. A canal might be led out of the river some miles higher up and conducted along the cliff side, crossing ravines by aqueducts of timber, or *kawreze* (chains of wells), as used in Central Asia, might be dug at Khooshnuggur, distant one mile, and the water led through pipes of timber or grooves of sandstone round the hill to the town. Or a tank of sufficient depth and size to supply eight months' consumption of water might be sunk and built at the hillside, and this, whatever its size, could easily be filled from the drainage of the hills during the monsoon. Building stone, lime and wood are all very abundant.

The road from Kotla to Noorpoor is very severe for cattle, and is about three good marches for laden camels. There is, however, nothing that might not be softened to admit the passage of guns.

7th June 1846.—Marched to Sirrinuggur, a garden and grove of the Rajas of Noorpoor, at the distance of five miles down the rivulet. It has been spoken of as a cantonment site, but there is far preferable ground on the high tableland between Kotla and Noorpoor at six miles from the latter, being a fine open valley, well wooded and well cultivated, on firm soil, sandstone formation, and having Rubbee crops; all favourable circumstances in respect of salubrity. A ridge of mountains about 8,000 feet high lies eastward, at the distance of 10 miles.

Up to this moment I had been on all hands assured that I should here find buildings capable of sheltering part of my establishment. They prove to be mere ruins, and the wood is too dense to be salubrious during the monsoon.

8th June.—Resumed my march for Pathankot to finish the settlement in that quarter and to decide upon some choice of shelter for the rains. I had hoped that the weather would hold up yet a week, but the rain fell with a fury which there was no mistaking, and after persisting in my march upwards of an hour, seeing no symptoms of abatement, I turned back. The horses could not face the storm, so I sent them to a neighbouring village and waded on foot through the torrent back to my encampment. It continued raining all this day,

and as the monsoon is now set in, it seems to me unwise to defer housing my establishments at once; when I can descend alone to finish the settlement.

9th to 15th June 1846.—Returned to Khooshnuggur, where I purpose building a little cantonment of straw huts. Sent for timber, bamboo and grass, which has since been coming in. At Shahpoor I might have found greater facilities; but it seems too isolated a post during the rainy season for a detachment that has no medical attendant, its distance from Noorpoor being upwards of 20 miles.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

6.—*From Captain* J. ABBOTT, *Boundary Commissioner, to Major* H. M. LAWRENCE, *Governor-General's Agent, N.-W. F., Simla,—No. 37, dated Camp Pathankot, 2nd July 1846.*

I HAVE the honour to forward my Journal for the latter half of June last. I regret that the weather has prevented the possibility of any operations during that period excepting the necessary precaution of hutting my establishments.

Journal of Captain J. Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 15th to the 30th June 1846.

15th to 29th June 1846.—Employed in hutting myself and establishments at the distance of two miles from the Fort of Noorpoor.

30th June.—The temporary cantonment being almost finished and the weather having broken a little, sent on my people and baggage to Pathankot and purpose following them to-morrow to complete the line of demarcation from the Chukki to the Ravi.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

7.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 1st to the 17th July 1846.

1st July 1846.—Marched from Noorpoor to Pathankot.

2nd to 5th July.—Employed daily in exploring a variety of lines of boundary, conformable with the village limits, from the Chukki to the Ravi. These are surveyed after me by the native establishment. I have left the two Engineer Officers engaged at Noorpoor in preparing a map of the season's work. The necessity of my present intricate and tedious task arises in the uncertainty of the decision of Government respecting the Meerthul Estate, an irresumable jaghir which has at the moment of transfer been resumed and reassessed, thereby throwing out all previous calculations, for the lands available for exchange beyond the Ravi, valued at 17,000 rupees, will little more than cover the lands we have already enclosed, if the proceedings of the Durbar are sanctioned by our Government.

6th July.—Engaged as above in the forenoon. In the afternoon in taking the assessments of the Pathankot villages as collected by the Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud upon the returns of four years and comparing them with my own estimates. The difference is not material. But the Durbar have been making resumptions and fresh assessments, which are perplexing.

7th July.—In the morning engaged as usual upon the boundary, afterwards took the affidavit of the zumeendars of Pathankot to their several signatures. Unfortunately they can give little information, and even the Putwaries' accounts, where such exist, yield it only by dint of extraordinary labor and patience.

8th July.—Attempted to cross the Chukki to explore a new course for the road from Noorpur to Julundhur, but the torrent was running about eight feet deep and with a violence which would have swept away the elephant. Engaged in protracting and comparing the work of the survey.

9th July.—Effected a passage across the Chukki in three feet water and explored the projected line of road, being a very easy acclivity and declivity of two miles from the Chukki to Doomtul passing over the low intervening hills. The principal obstacles are low thick jungle and boulders. The removal of these with a little dressing of the axe

and spade would open it to wheel carriages. It is more toilsome than the old route, which is a mile longer. But the double passage of the treacherous and dangerous river Chukki is avoided, as well as the necessity of crossing the Sikh frontier. Duties upon merchandise are also avoided.

10th July 1846.—Took the new estimates of the Shoojanpoor villages as collected by the Dewan. They far exceed my own and appear to me greatly exaggerated. At any rate they afford no just average, the rates of the two last years of scarcity raising the rents from 30 to 50 per cent. above the two previous medium years. As, however, there is no probability that our frontier will enclose any of these villages, I have not thought the subject worthy of very rigid investigation. My own estimates were made when I supposed many of these villages might fall within our boundary. Took the attestations of all the zumeendars.

I had hoped to be absent only a week from Noorpoor, but the sudden activity of the Dewan has protracted the term, and I am but too glad to have data which cannot be challenged by the Durbar.

11th July.—Plotting survey work and comparing estimates, pending the arrival of the Meerthul zumeendars.

12th July.—(Sunday).

13th July.—Employed all day with the Nungul and Gurrota zumeendars in overhauling Putwaries' books, etc.

14th July.—Employed again all day with aforesaid zumeendars. The assessment has risen considerably above the estimate given me when on the spot, owing to the rise of provisions the last two seasons.

15th July.—Engaged all day with the Meerthul zumeendars. Not only has this irresumable jaghir been resumed, but the owner has been prevented from gathering in the ripening harvest, and a new jumma has been huddled hastily upon the lands, to enhance their value at the moment of transfer. The zumeendars indeed express their acquiescence in the justice of the new settlement. But, then, they are aware that they have passed to the British Government. It might be otherwise had they remained Sikh.

16th July.—Marched to Shahpoor upon the Ravi, to close some work of the survey which my call to Kot Kangra left incomplete.

I occupy a kind of double-storied barrack standing upon a high cliff of the river where it emerges from the mountains and commanding a beautiful view. The building is in disrepair, but might be repaired at small expense, and is the most airy and habitable place ever constructed by a native.

17th July 1846.—Having now collected all the estimates at present obtainable, I proceed to sum up the result, and in the uncertainty whether Government will acknowledge the resumption of Meerthul, or whether, if acknowledged, the new and increased assessment will be sanctioned, I have struck out three new lines of boundary, exhibited upon the sketch map accompanying, *viz.*—

·········*A.*—Old boundary as existent in the time of the two last Rajas of Noorpoor.

∿∿∿∿*B.*—Boundary equalising lands enclosed by us, with lands disposable for exchange, supposing Meerthul to remain a jaghir of 10 horsemen. This line includes within our limits the only carriage road between Julundhur and Noorpoor at present existing.

o-o-o-o*C.*—The same, supposing Meerthul to be resumed at the valuation it has hitherto borne of 5,000 rupees. This includes at present no carriage road.

———*D.*—Boundary supposing Meerthul resumed and the new assessment of 7,000 rupees to be sanctioned.

In respect of these lines, *B*, which includes the carriage road, is manifestly awkward as exhibiting a long tongue of British territory between the river Chukki and the Sikh cantonment of Pathankot.

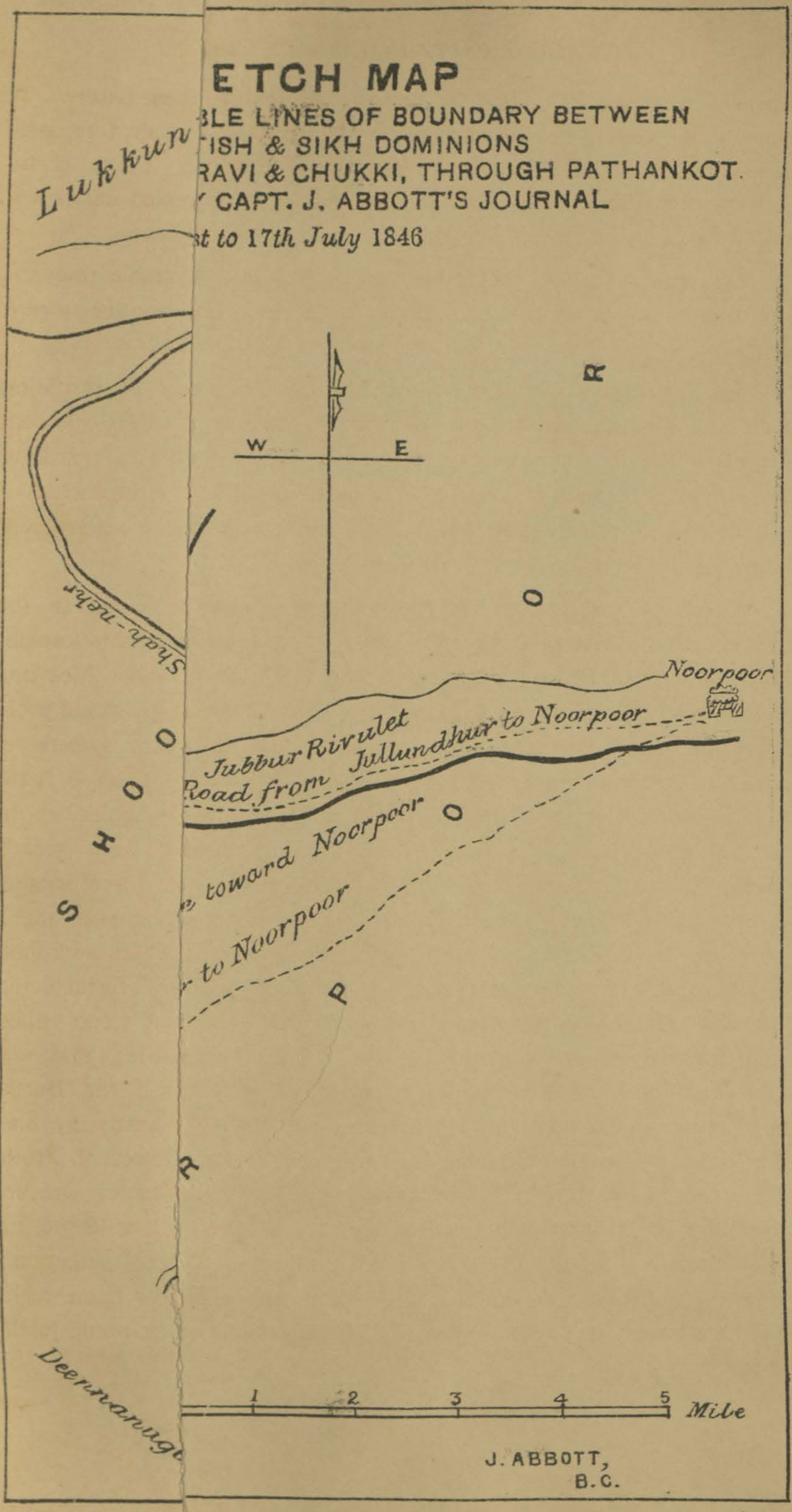
C is more compact and appears to me the most preferable line available. It does not include the present carriage road, but I have personally surveyed (see July 9th) a practicable pass over the low hills from the Chukki to Doomtul as marked in map, which at small expense could be made practicable to carriages, the length being two miles: and this would supersede the dangerous passage and repassage of the Chukki, which has no boat and is often quite impassable. There is moreover another and more direct line of camel road from Noorpoor to Meerthul passing entirely through our territory and susceptible by native account of being opened at no great

expense to carriages. This I purpose surveying immediately. It seems to me an object of importance to be able to maintain free communication of all kinds without crossing the Chukki. There is no regular intercourse with Noorpoor by means of wheeled carriages. Indeed eastward of Deennanuggur carts seem to be unknown.

D appears to me preferable to *B*, but less desirable than *C*, admitting a corner of the Sikh State to eat into our frontier toward Noorpoor.

The principle upon which the Durbar is acting of resuming lands and altering assessments on this frontier at the very moment of transfer greatly embarrasses me, and hence the necessity of marking out so many lines of boundary to meet possible contingencies—a tedious operation to a small establishment owing to the necessity of following all deviations of village boundaries.

Of these resumptions the principal is Meerthul, given to the incumbent's father in exchange for Kotla. At the time of this transfer Meerthul was rated at 5,000 rupees and Kotla at 11,000. Meerthul is now worth 7,000 rupees, but under the Sikh Government would probably not have exceeded 5,500 owing to the prevalent system of under-assessment compensated by plunder *ad libitum*. But as it is the invariable custom to overvalue rather than to decry jaghirs at the time of gift, it may be inferred that this estate has been greatly improved by the incumbents. On questioning the Dewan's Moonshee it appears that the Durbar have offered the Jaghirdar another jaghir of 2,000 rupees as indemnity, with the promise of an additional 3,000 rupees of jaghir, whenever his 10 horsemen are forthcoming, thereby acknowledging that the estate was valued at 5,000 rupees and that only 3,000 rupees worth of it were resumable; those, *viz.*, covering his covenanted military service. And hence, if the Durbar are acting ingenuously toward us, they are dealing unjustly by him; for until his estate exceeded in value the 11,000 rupees of Kotla, for which he received it in exchange, they have no plea for wresting from him the benefits of his improvements. I have gone at length into these details because this is the most important of the resumptions affecting my operations and because it exhibits the system upon which they are based and the hollowness of the argument which would justify them.



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As it relates to the British Government it appears to me highly unfair that fresh assessments should be made at the moment of transfer to our hands; for as with us the nominal and the real assessment are one, the zumeendars are too happy to pay under our Government a higher nominal rent than under the Sikhs. The lands of Shahpoor, Noorpoor, beyond the Ravi, to be given in exchange for Meerthul, etc., are assessed at about 17,000 rupees. But the zumeendars I have no doubt would be too happy to pay 20 or 22,000 as our ryutts. But as these estates are to remain under Native rule, it was cruel to raise the assessments at the moment of transfer: because after they have satisfied the Native Government, they have to satisfy the rapacity of the Talooqdar, and thus we stand on even ground of exchange, only when the old assessments remain unaltered until after transfer.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

9.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from the 18th to the 31st July 1846.

18th July 1846.—Shahpoor—upon the Ravi. Summoned the zumeendars of Lukkunpoor, Teh and Chundgraon, possessions of Shahpoor beyond the Ravi, to give an account of their assessments. Those of Teh have this day attended, but the Lukkunpoor zumeendars have not appeared, although Raja Goolab Singh's Vuqueel assures me he has summoned them. I can find no place of shelter on those lands to enable me to gather the information on the spot at this season.

19th July.—Have procured from the Teh zumeendars by much persuasion a statement of their jummas for the last season. I have forbidden my Moonshee to flatter them with the prospect of becoming British ryutts as this appears at present improbable, and I do not think such deception justifiable even for the purpose of obtaining information which we have a right to possess. They are evidently in great terror at continuing under their present Governor and afraid to communicate freely with me, lest they incur his displeasure. Indeed, as he has collected the revenue of the past season and is accountable to the British for it, I apprehend extreme difficulty in extorting a true return of

the collections. It seems that Raja Goolab Singh has added to the former light assessment certain arbitrary sums, probably calculated to be equivalent to the extra exactions of farmers and others. I can hear nothing of the Lukkunpoor zumeendars, and shall therefore return to Pathankot to-morrow, my lengthened absence from Noorpoor being inconvenient.

20th July 1846.—Returned to Pathankot.

21st July.—Returned to Noorpoor by the devious route of the Chaunj torrent to ascertain the practicability of that line for carriages. The distance is 20 koss. From Malote, where the hills commence, to Gungtah, about 10 miles, the path is through a wide level valley formed by the Chaunj, the small bright stream of which is crossed and recrossed continually. The valley is richly cultivated and profusely watered. The path requires little aid from human labour to open it to the heaviest Artillery, nothing in fact but what half a dozen Pioneers could effect on the advance. But at Gungtah it becomes more difficult, and a mile beyond it ascends a ridge of hill about 400 feet high, descending afterwards into the valley of the Jubbur or Noorpoor stream. The whole ascent and descent would require expensive levelling, and from being artificial would need yearly repairs: whereas the ascent and descent lower down near Doomtul is already almost made to hand, the ravines on either side being smooth, firm and of easy acclivity and the height to be surmounted little more than half. I doubt therefore whether hackeries would ever follow this route were it opened, whilst the easy ascent of the Chukki and Jubbur is available, and indeed there is at present almost no intercourse with Noorpoor by wheeled carriages. Gungtah is a place of some consequence. Several bridle roads meet there, and it is celebrated for its copper and brass manufactures. I can learn of no access to it from Noorpoor easier than that just mentioned.

22nd July.—Engaged this day in arranging matters disordered by my long absence.

23rd July.—The Lukkunpoor zumeendars have just arrived downcast and trembling, evidently terrified by threats, and of course little disposed to yield any true intelligence. The difference between the aspect of these poor creatures and the happy faces of our own zumeen-

dars is remarkable. Nothing can reassure them. As I can myself get no intelligence from them, I have made them over to my Moonshee, a native of Noorpoor, in the hope that he may obtain some data upon which to work. Sent for the Tehsildar of Noorpoor to ascertain how much of my instructions he had fulfilled, *viz.*, to prepare a list of the villages of his Tehsil bordering upon Chumba. I find that in the course of a month he has not taken even a single step to fulfil these orders, although their importance was clearly explained to him. In fact the instant I return to our own districts, I find Tehsildars and Kotwals equally indifferent and disobedient, setting an example of inattention to the whole district. The settlement of this portion of the frontier is thus thrown back some fourteen days.

24th July 1846.—Engaged in mapping whilst the examination of the Lukkunpoor zumeendars proceeds in the office. Directed Raja Goolab Singh's Vuqueel to summon the Mooquddums of the Chumba border.

25th July.—Engaged all day in endeavouring to procure from the Lukkunpoor people a credible estimate of the past season's collections. That which they have given in my office is at the rate of from 1 rupee 4 annas to 1 rupee 12 annas per plough. The season was not good; but on the other hand the prices had risen in consequence, and all the villages of Pathankot and Shoojanpoor separated only by the Ravi showed increased returns for this season. The Noorpoor collections also are very decent. By the zumeendars' own confession, a plough can yield Government in good seasons 25 rupees per annum, or 12½ per season, and if the produce were only half that of other years, yet the price was only nearly double. Such an extravagant difference is therefore incredible, and I have been obliged to inform the Vuqueel that if credible estimates are not given, I shall be obliged to represent the impossibility of procuring such whilst the Raja's Kardars are in office.

26th, 27th and 28th July.—Engaged with the Mooquddums of Shahpoor and Noorpoor. The hardship of detaining these people long from their homes at this busy season prevents my benefiting by the rest of the Sabbath.

29th July.—Employed in mapping, etc.

30th and 31st July 1846.—Taking the evidence and depositions of the Chumba Mooquddums as to the course of their frontier.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

10.—Journal of Captain J. Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 1st to the 18th August 1846.

1st August 1846.—Taking the evidence of the Chundgraon Mooquddums and zumeendars as to the revenue and geography of that estate beyond the Ravi.

2nd August.—(Sunday).

3rd August.—Taking depositions of Chumba Mooquddums as to their boundary with Noorpoor.

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th August.—Preparing paper and plotting the map of season's work. Returned the tables for the completion of the plotting columns not yet brought up.

9th August.—(Sunday).

10th, 11th August.—Comparing—enquiring.

12th August.—Taking the depositions of Mooquddums of the Chumba border. Up to this date the rain has been so incessant that the work of the survey without doors has been stopped, although I have prepared, by enquiry and the evidence of the border authorities, about 40 miles more for survey.

13th August.—Taking evidence of the Kotla Mooquddums. The rain has ceased, but three out of four of the measurers are laid up with fever.

14th August.—Correspondence, etc.; waiting for the elements of the map (*sic*) and for the Lukkunpoor accounts.

15th August.—Taking evidence of the Chumba border Mooquddums.

16th August.—(Sunday).

17th, 18th August 1846.—Looking over work, waiting for elements of map and for the Lukkunpoor accounts. Despatched a surveying party. At the end of last month finding that the accounts procured from the zumeendars of Lukkunpoor under the authority of Raja Goolab Singh's Vuqueel were utterly incredible, the collections of the past Rubbee averaging about 1 rupee 8 per plough, I informed the Vuqueel that, unless credible returns were forthcoming by return of post from Catoohee, I should be obliged to report that there was no hope of such during the continuance of the Raja's Kardars in that district, which is at present the property of the British Government. The Vuqueel asked for nine days' law to produce satisfactory accounts, promising faithfully to fulfil his pledge. Nineteen days have, however, elapsed and I have heard nothing of the accounts. During this interval the settlement of that portion of the border is arrested and needless expense is incurred by our Government. Raja Goolab Singh has collected the Rubbee of those lands, for which he is accountable to the British Government. But I doubt any satisfactory return being rendered whilst he holds possession of the estates. They are (excepting Chundgraon) hill districts, and it might be expected with reference to the treaty that they might eventually fall to the Raja in exchange for other possessions.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

11.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 20th to the 31st August 1846.

20th August 1846.—The boundary survey is slowly proceeding owing to the weather, the roughness of the ground amongst the mountains and the thickness of the jungle ; the progress of the map is arrested by the incompleteness of traverse work.

21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th August.—Map still arrested, traverse table being incorrect. Survey proceeding in direction of Kangra. Took a few more depositions of Kotla zumeendars. The Lukkunpoor accounts are not yet received from Maharaja Goolab Singh, which occasions much vexatious delay, as I have no data for the balance of a transfer.

29th, 30th, 31st August 1846.—The Lukkunpoor and Chundgraon accounts have at length arrived. The falsifications are not so gross as in the former account. But still they can scarcely be genuine: for those two estates were farmed for 14,500 rupees and this average gives only 14,150 rupees per annum. The survey is still continuing. The map still arrested for want of the elements.

CAMP NEAR NOORPOOR: *1st September 1846.*

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

Journals of CAPTAIN *J.* ABBOTT, *Boundary Commissioner, Punjab—1847.*

[*Note.*—Captain Abbott was in charge of Hazara from the 13th August 1847.]

No. 1.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, during January 1847.

11th January 1847.—Returned from Lahore to Katooha *viâ* Sialkote, having visited the camp of the Engineers employed in the survey on the road. Lieutenant Young is now recovered from his illness, and I have directed him to precede Lieutenant Robinson, and to take up points for the apices of the triangles, erecting at each a flagstaff.

13th January.—The Vuzeer of Maharaja Goolab Singh arrived this day. Until his arrival it has been impossible to commence the erection of boundary pillars.

14th to 31st.—Busily employed in erecting the boundary pillars in earth, to be re-edified in masonry when the brick and mortar are prepared. The work is perplexing as being new to the whole establishment, and I am in my saddle great part of each day, correcting errors and teaching the Moonshees, Kalassees, etc. After much consideration I have decided upon erecting a substantial pillar of masonry at every decided angle, however small that angle be, and to define the slight inflections by means of earthen pillars seven feet high, girt with a ditch. This will render disputes barely possible. In long right lines, the pillars will be distant about 50 yards the one from the other, and every fourth or fifth pillar will be of masonry. At the crossing of large rivers a column of masonry of double the usual height will be erected on either bank, and when the stream of a considerable river forms the boundary, one of these pillars will be placed at the first meeting of the boundary with the river and another at the point from which the boundary quits the river. Each pillar will have imbedded a slab of stone inscribed in Persian character and defining in few words the intermediate space. The ordinary pillars of masonry will be 4½ feet high, with a foundation of 1½ feet, and a diameter in the shaft of 2½ feet.

The boundary pillars have been set up in earth, from the Ravi to this point, Sookoo ki chuk, a distance, following the inflections of the boundary, of 38 miles. My native establishment, under its present strength, is utterly inadequate to the proposed task of fixing these

boundary pillars from hence to the river Indus, before the 1st June next. I am therefore entertaining additional mootsuddies and measurers at my own expense, unless it please Government to sanction the extra cost. The remaining distance from hence to the Indus, following inflections of the boundary, is not less than 460 miles; for it is impossible to violate village bounds, and they run into the most irregular figures.

The Traverse Survey of the boundary has proceeded, as far as Soochetgurh, but owing to the ill-health of the Native Surveyor it now proceeds but slowly.

I have enclosed Katooha within the Jummoo territory, to be balanced by lands taken from the Jummoo frontier. This arrangement gives a better boundary to both States, and the Maharaja Goolab Singh had expressed his particular wish to effect it and readiness to give an equivalent in land.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 2.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in February 1847.

1st to 28th February 1847.—The whole of the past month has been diligently occupied in setting up boundary pillars; making new surveys for straightening the boundary line; taking the evidence of all the village zumeendars as to the correctness of the landmarks; settling disputed possessions of village lands by Punchayats, and those between the two States by evidence given in the presence of the parties before me in Kutcherry. I find it necessary to visit myself every pillar that is erected owing to the carelessness of natives in the absence of such check, so that I am in saddle five or six hours daily.

It is impossible to give satisfaction to the Maharaja Goolab Singh. The instant I commence cutting off the corners of his territory to repay the Sikh Government for value received by the Maharaja, I am assailed with remonstrances. His Highness can spare it in any other part of the frontier, yet these corners are as inconvenient to him as to the Lahore Government. Moreover his Vuzeer, Roop Chand, gave in such exaggerated estimates of the value of the lands thus cut off that it has caused much perplexity.

The Jesrota villages reckoned by him at 36,000 rupees have fallen, upon calling for the *khusrahs*, to 22,000. In all points in which the Maharaja is manifestly advocating what is for the advantage of his kingdom I am most anxious to conform, as far as possible, to his wishes, and of this character is his desire to keep as much of the plains about his capital as possible and to have a strip of plain territory at the foot of his hills to facilitate intercourse and the passage of guns, etc. But His Highness has so little plain country to give in return that it will be impossible to carry out his views in the latter particular, especially as it is impossible to persuade him that land about Jumboo were well bestowed to effect the second object.

Much rain has fallen this month and the preceding; about eight days have been lost to the establishments, and the Holi has consumed five days more, so that the work of the past month does not exceed 70 miles.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 3.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 1st to 11th March 1847.

1st and 2nd March 1847.—Holi holidays.

3rd March.—Employed in surveying, setting up boundary pillars, examining work, plotting the Native Surveyor's Field Book, and taking the razeenamahs of the zumeendars.

4th March.— Ditto ditto between Sohl and Minawur.

5th March.—Received a letter from Maharaja Goolab Singh earnestly requesting me not to cut off territory opposite Jumboo, but to take it rather from any other part of his dominions, a request which should never have been needed could he have told me from whence to take it. The Taloquhs cut off are long projecting corners (Davigurh and Keerpind), value 12,000 rupees; and after having taken them, I am still at a loss to make up the sum due to the Lahore Government. Employed as above.

6th March 1847—Mullal.—Employed as above between Kooleet and Minawur. The work begins to lag. The people of Maharaja Goolab Singh are becoming sulky and inattentive, and give me little aid, and the *Todah bundie* mootsuddies seem to be influenced by them; for I cannot persuade them to work. Yesterday issued a Roobakaree making over the purgunnah of Minawur Khas to the Lahore Government, the survey having proceeded far enough to show that alterations in its limits will not be necessary, and the Jumboo people having made free with some of the green corn, although aware that the estate is not their own.

7th March.—I am still detained here by the same causes. Employed as before in setting up boundary pillars, etc. I have not any hearty assistance from Vuzeer Roop Chund. He and his people seem to hope to gain their purpose by delaying the progress of the settlement. He came to-day to remind me that I had acceeded to his request for a skirt of plain country opposite Minawur. I replied that, if he would produce any equivalent, he should have it.

8th March—Mullal.—I cannot get free of this unhappy place. The locusts are ravaging Minawur. I am still employed in reviewing daily the boundary pillars set up the past day; taking razeenamahs; hearing proceedings of the Punchayats on village disputes; plotting the daily surveys; instructing candidates for the surveys, etc.

9th March.—Marched to Punj Toote on the lesser Toh river, a tributary of the Chenab, surveying about 15 miles of boundary pillars on the road. Employed as usual. The Kooleet territory ceases here and Mungla commences: Minawur (Sikh) continues. The ancient Jaghirdar of Mungla, a relation of Maharaja Goolab Singh, has been dispossessed by that Prince, and is almost in rebellion. He came to me for redress, but I referred him to Lahore. It is an ancient, petty principality of about ten villages in the hills.

10th March—Punj Toote.—Employed as on the previous day. Border Minawur and Mungla.

11th March.—Lesser Toh river, two miles north of Minawur. Examined the boundary pillars *en route*. Employed as above. Another and more urgent letter from Maharaja Goolab Singh requesting me to undo the *Todah bundie* of Ruthana and Keerpind. I have replied

that I cannot even venture to suggest any alteration in it unless he will distinctly point out what plain territory I can take in lieu ; this having been cut off by express compact with his Commissioners.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 4.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 12th to 18th March 1847.

12th March 1847.—Chuk Bhao on lesser Toh river, Minawur. Taking razeenamahs, plotting, inspecting boundary pillars, instructing, pupils, etc.

13th March.—Do Kooha.—Taking evidence upon disputed territory, inspecting boundary pillars between Minawur and Mungla, plotting, etc.

14th and 15th March.—As above. Summing up evidence upon claims to disputed possessions in Charwa, Soochaytgurh, Ulla, Thoob, etc.

16th March—Burnala.—Receiving evidence upon disputed villages. of Burnala and Goojrat. Taking razeenamahs, plotting and inspecting boundary pillars.

17th March.—Whilst my camp moved to Kuddala, I ran over to Jullalpoor to see the process of damascening sword blades there, of which I am preparing an account for the Asiatic Society.

18th March—Kuddala of Goojrat.—Inspecting boundary pillars, plotting, taking razeenamahs. The impossibility of being ahead of the work to ascertain the best line, and in rear to see that it is efficiently executed, at one and the same time, and the sickness of the only efficient Native Surveyor, lead to constant obstructions and cancels (*sic*); for as my Native Surveyor can neither sketch ground nor write Persian, nor English, his survey is of comparatively little use. Mr. Agnew has just addressed me upon the importance of a road at the foot of the mountains within the Jumboo territory. I am doing my best to leave space for the purpose on this side, *i.e.*, eastward of the Jelum, but westward of that river it is doubtful whether I can effect it.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 5.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 20th to 25th March 1847.

20th March 1847—Kundhala of Kotla.—Surveying boundary pillars, plotting, receiving razeenamahs and hearing causes. About five of the Kotla villages I have made over to the Jumboo frontier to give space for a road at the foot of the hills.

21st March—Churrioula.—Employed as above. I have cut off and given to the Sikh frontier the greater part of Bhimber to square accounts and make a clear boundary.

22nd March.—Ran over to Kotla to arrange my heavy baggage which I deposit at Jelum.

23rd March.—Returned to camp at Pindi of Kurriali. Inspected boundary pillars, plotted the Surveyor's work, examined, compared and corrected the *Todah bundie* plans from the Chenab hither.

24th March—Peer Khaun.—Surveying boundary pillars, plotting surveys, receiving razeenamahs from the village zumeendars and hearing a few causes.

25th March—Ali Beg of Kurriali.—Employed as above. I have been obliged to cut off and assign to Jumboo more of Kurriali than I had supposed would be necessary, in order to admit of a carriage road from Bhimber to Meerpoor, an object of extreme importance. This tends to embarrass the settlement as it is difficult to repay the balance of plain country due to the Lahore Government.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 6.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 25th to 30th March 1847.

25th March 1847.—Ali Beg in Kurriali.—Employed in inspection of boundary pillars, receipt of razeenamahs, plotting the survey, etc.

26th and 27th March.—Employed as above and in endeavouring to avoid the necessity of cutting off so large a portion of Kurriali. The innumerable ravines in the northern part of Kurriali render this inevi-

table, as otherwise the communication on the Jumboo frontier would be impeded. The existence of so much rugged ground in Kurriali was not known to me in my first hurried visit, or I should have remarked upon the necessity of enclosing it in the Jumboo boundary with the hill villages specified in my report. The knowledge would not have altered my judgment of the southern portion of Kurriali, which is essentially a portion of the Lahore territory containing the great trunk road from Lahore to Peshawur, nor do I conceive that table-land, broken into ravines by the action of the rains, is properly hill country, but as this table, with its ravines, springs from the very roots of the mountains, the necessity, which annexes it to the hill country in forming a frontier, is a strong plea, even should it be found impossible to give an equivalent from the plain country of Jumboo.

28th March 1847—Sumrala.—Employed as on previous days. I have been unable to make so clear a boundary hereabouts as I could wish, owing to the poverty of Jumboo in transferable plain country. I should have wished to make the two frontiers meet at the junction of the rivulet Sookaytur with the river Jelum, which would have been a very eligible line, but Maharaja Goolab Singh cannot pay in plain country for the additional land it would be necessary to give him The line I am thus forced to adopt is awkward and inconvenient, but it gives a free communication along the Jumboo frontier. Issued a Roobakaree making over to Lahore the districts Behwul, Zillah Mogul and Hoomuk. Soochaytgurh was provided for thus, some time ago, but the Killadar, it is said, refused to obey the purwana I have sent fresh instructions. The sloth and inefficiency of all the Jumboo establishment accompanying me is a cause of serious delay and distress to the zumeendars, who attend to render their accounts, and who are dragged for this purpose sometimes a hundred miles from their houses.

29th and 30th March.—Engaged in surveying boundary pillars, receiving accounts of value of transferred lands, and razeenamahs from the zumeendars, in plotting surveys, etc. Lieutenant Young is about 30 miles in advance, taking up points for the Trigonometrical Survey. Lieutenant Robinson is a short distance from me carrying on the trigonometrical observations. Both are working hard and well. They can barely keep pace with my progress owing to the shortness of their

lines, which the thickness of the atmosphere necessitates, as well as our want of apparatus for night signals.

31st March 1847.—Still at Sumrala, where I have halted in the hope of freeing myself from the long train of zumeendars, by clearing off their accounts. News has arrived that the Behwul Kardar refuses to obey my order of surrender sent through Vuzeer Roop Chund. Some apprehension of this made me think advisable that the order should come from the Resident. I have reiterated it, but know not with what effect. I march to-morrow for Meerpoor, and thence by daily marches to Karoo Khowta, about 50 miles farthernorth.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 7.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 1st to 10th April 1847.

1st April 1847.—Marched to Meerpoor. As the boundary between Lahore and Jumboo for many miles is the stream of the river Jelum, no boundary pillars are requisite during that extent of limit. I am therefore hastening to the point at which the boundary quits the Jelum. Employed in plotting and receiving razeenamahs.

2nd April.—In consequence of heavy rain, I am detained here to-day contrary to my intention. I am laboring hard to make the Moonshees of either State agree in their estimates and allow the zumeendars to depart. But their indolence and litigious spirit is a heavy grievance to these poor people. Lieutenant Robinson is working with the theodolite at Mungla. Lieutenant Young is 30 miles ahead, taking up trigonometric points. Corporal Smith is ordered to survey up the Jelum so far as it continues the boundary. Nund Kurrun, my only tolerably efficient Native Surveyor, is, I fear, in a dying state. Ram Deen, the other Surveyor, is far ahead defining the boundary. The pupils I employ in tracing out the occasional deviations from existing tenure suggested by circumstances. Boundary pillars in earth are now set up from the Ravi to the Jelum, about two-thirds of the entire line of frontier between the States. And if the testimony of the Vaqueels of either State may be credited, bricks and mortar are being collected throughout

the line of boundary. I have myself made plans and models in wood for the construction; and Moonshees have been specially deputed by Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud and Vuzeer Roop Chund to report upon the progress of the masonry. Still as the work is expensive, it will not, I fear, be accomplished speedily without European superintendence. If therefore, on reaching the Indus, I find my active operations suspended, I purpose deputing one of the Sapper Sergeants to report upon the progress of the masonry.

3rd April 1847.—Marched to Chowmook, eight miles; employed in receiving razeenamahs and endeavouring to expedite settlement of accounts Meerpoor is a beautiful elevated valley, enjoying a fine climate and salubrious atmosphere.

4th April.—Marched to Dhangulli Ghaut, 12 miles. The road is latterly very rugged, and though under European superintendence it might be made passable for guns, it would always be very difficult and, in native hands, probably impracticable. It runs about a quarter of a mile up the basin of the Jelum, so that it is closed by the rains altogether; about 11 miles lower down is the ferry of Hill which is practicable to guns and always open. Its road leads through Behwul, which has been declared to belong to Lahore and could not be enclosed in the Jumboo boundary unless that State had about 40,000 rupees worth of land to give in exchange elsewhere. Employed as yesterday.

4th April.—Still at the Ghaut. I was out the whole forenoon exploring the river and the hills. It will be possible to give Jumboo this ferry and imperfect communication at a small expense. Indeed, the rocky character of the portion enclosed, and the fact of its forming the only available connection of the southern frontier of the Jumboo State, make me consider it properly a portion of that kingdom.

5th, 6th and 7th April.—Moved camp from the Ghaut to a ravine under the old Gukka palace at Dhangulli, of which only the ruins remain. Surveying boundary pillars, plotting, and receiving razeenamahs. The people of this country steal the flags set up by the Trigonometrical Survey which causes much annoyance, as it is impossible to have the flags always guarded on bleak, exposed, and lonely positions. The inhabitants of Lukri are said to be the offenders, but

the Dewan declines molesting them on account of their strength and bellicose disposition; and the evidence is not sufficient to justify risk of bloodshed.

8th April 1847.—Detained here by the stupidity of the *Todah bundie* Moonshee, which has rendered a second set of boundary pillars necessary. Employed as on the preceding days, being daily for four to five hours in saddle.

9th and 10th April.—Marched to Tehooah, a beautiful valley of Kullur. Have the utmost difficulty in getting the Moonshees to come to any settlement of accounts. The work of hours is dwindled into weeks and months, and would never be settled at all without my peremptory interference. Yet nothing can be simpler than the work they have before them and the instructions for their guidance. The Jumboo Moonshees are such helpless inefficient creatures that I am obliged constantly to rouse them, or their master's revenue would suffer. The whole establishment employed as on other days.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 8.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 1st to 10th May 1847.

1st May 1847.—*Noorpoor.*—Occupied in exploring the boundary which here climbs the ridge of Mount. Serra, a formation of sandstone with blue limestone, elevated at least 1,500 feet above the plain of Rawul Pindi. I should have preferred carrying the boundary along the foot of this mountain, until the Jumboo boundary quits the mountain altogether; but this could not be done without violating Sirdar Chuttur Singh's jaghir of Syudpoor, otherwise the Maharaja Goolab Singh might have a camel road through the mountains into Khaunpoor and the Huzaras, a matter of the utmost importance to his kingdom. Had I been aware until this moment of the existence of this camel road I should have recommended the Maharaja to arrange with Chuttur Singh for the transfer of this portion of the mountain by sale or exchange. But native intelligence is so imperfect that although my enquiries have been made of hundreds of the zumeendars of the

country, I had no idea, until I came close to the spot, that camels could cross this ridge anywhere but at Margulla.

I have also been hearing and registering the petitions of the various refugees who are in my camp and endeavouring to shape out some settlement by which employment beneficial to the State might be found for them.

Lieutenant Robinson is taking the trigonometrical observations. Lieutenant Young is 20 miles ahead, taking up stations and fixing flags. Corporal Smith has just returned from surveying part of the river Jelum which he has performed in a very creditable manner. One of the Native Surveyors is ahead defining the boundary and the *Todah bundie* Moonshees are setting up the pillars. I am delaying at this spot in the hope of learning here the final answer to Dewan Joalla Sahaie's proposition to give up all lands westward of the Jelum, to which I attach such extreme importance. It would be inconvenient to carry farther the zumeendars of Nurraie, etc., and I cannot very well come to any settlement of their case until the final answer to this boundary question is known.

2nd May 1847—Noorpoor.—Employed as yesterday. I had a conference to-day with Shaikh Sowdagur, the Maharaja Goolab Singh's acting Commissioner, upon the settlement of the neighbouring mountains and their borders. He agreed with me that the collections in the mountains were best entrusted to a mountain zumeendar or person whom the mountaineers respect. He prefers the former, and doubts whether the influence of the Gukkas, unsupported by military aid, would suffice for collecting revenue from this independent race, whereas there is generally in every purgunnah some one zumeendar whose extensive connections or wealth give him a preponderance over the others. The villages of Jumboo, skirting the mountains from the Sohaun river to this point, form a little district yielding about 8,000 rupees, inhabited by a race of men as free and independent in their feelings as the mountaineers, and who can turn out 500 armed men for any purpose of mischief. He was inclined to entrust the collections of this tract to the Nurraie zumeendar, as best able to awe the people, but this would make the Nurraie men too strong and leave unprovided for the Gukka refugees who, I think, might be usefully occupied in controlling these zumeendars. He objected to the number of jaghirs

this would lead to and pleaded the smallness of the revenue. I asked what number of troops would be necessary for this little tract of 8,000 rupees alone. He allowed that not less than 500 men would be sufficient, costing 50,000 rupees or 42,000 more than the revenue. I thought that, if by giving up the value of the whole revenue in jaghirs they could effect a peaceable settlement, the gain would be 42,000 rupees, and all the authors of disorder and anarchy would be provided for. I spoke particularly of the Mandla Raja, whose old jaghir lies here. He objected that he had just been guilty of an outrage. I reminded him that laws are made for those whom laws protect; that the instant the law ceases to protect any man's rights, he is justified in infringing those laws; that this man, the descendant of an illustrious race, not long ago sovereigns of this country, had been plundered of his possession and wrongfully imprisoned by Hurri Singh, and again plundered by the Kardar in whose district he was not dwelling and who had no just plea against him. I believed him to possess great influence with these zumeendars, and I thought that if he received a jaghir in some distant part and a percentage upon the collections of the district, he might be made as useful as at present he is hurtful to the Maharaja's interests. He promised to consider the question.

3rd May 1847—Noorpoor Shahi.—Jaafir Khaun and his cousins attended to be reconciled together. They are peaceable zumeendars and incensed at the mischief and confusion he has in past times occasioned. It may be questioned whether it was very wise to call him on promise of provision, but having been admitted to such terms it is highly necessary that they should be inviolate. The reconciliation was not very cordial. Both parties are in fear of one another. The cousins fear the restless habits and violent disposition of Jaafir Khaun and he dreads the retribution due to his former excesses. I insisted upon his immediately disbanding all his followers excepting five (he has about 50). The five may be really necessary for his security and as he has now some stake in his jaghir, I trust he may become a good subject. Should he again take to the mountain as a marauder he should be hunted down without remorse. It would perhaps be a better arrangement if his jaghir were exchanged for one in the plains and he made to reside on it, retaining at Goorreh his hereditary rights as a zumeendar.

4th May 1847—Noorpoor Shahi.—Had a conference to-day with Shaikh Sowdagur, the Jumboo representative, to discuss the arrangements for a quiet settlement of the hills and their skirts. I proposed the employment of Raja Shahb Ali Khaun, Gukka, as collector of the refractory villages hereabouts those bordering the mountains, as his influence and fear is very great over the inhabitants. This, however, was objected to as quite contrary to Maharaja Goolab Singh's policy. They were sure he never would willingly consent to a Gukka having any fiscal authority, and they begged I would arrange for his provision by jaghir and military service. It was settled therefore with their full consent on part of their master that Shahb Ali Khaun should have a jaghir in the plains, remote from his old haunts, of 2,000 rupees value, of which 1,000 are to be his own and 1,000 the pay of foot soldiers of his quota. I think that if his son remains always at the jaghir he himself may be usefully employed in controlling this part of the country. It was also arranged that Zemaun Ali Khaun, Gukka, should have a jaghir of 1,000 rupees, of which 500 to be his own, 500 the pay of foot soldiers, to be also in the plains; that Buhadoor Khaun, Gukka, is to have a jaghir in land of 500 rupees, 300 for self and 200 for foot soldiers. And the collectors for the mountain States recommended by the Jumboo agents are—

For Nurraie, Rs. 6,300,—Nusroo Ali Khaun, chief zumeendar.

For Potah, Rs. 6,000,—Zubrdust Khaun.

For Kurrore and Charhun, Rs. 4,000,—Hydur Khaun, Sutti.

Mountain Skirts,—Peer Bukhsh, zumeendar of Phoograon, the chief village.

They assure me they are certain of the Maharaja's acquiescence in these arrangements, although they at first tried to beat down the jaghirs to something too paltry to tempt men, who have been deeply wronged and are sensible of their present strength, to return to obedience. It must be remembered that the representative of each of these decayed families is expected to maintain all his relations. This he does, partly by employing them in his quota and partly by gifts from his personal jaghir. It is very necessary that he should maintain them, otherwise they will become plunderers in his old haunts. I shall defer, however,

communicating these arrangements to the Gukkas for a few days in the hope of receiving final instructions as to the proposed frontier line on the Jelum.

5th May 1847.—Marched to Syudpoor three miles west by south. This range of mountains, here about 1,500 feet higher than the plain, forms a triple barrier, about 25 miles in length, after which (at Margulla) it becomes single, and having dwindled into hills of about 500 feet continues west by south, ten miles farther, continually diminishing. There are many paths over it which are practicable to bullocks and ponies and might be made so for camels, but Margulla is the only gun pass, though at Shaul Detta I am informed that the road is convertible into a gun track. The villages at the western foot of these mountains enjoy a delightful climate as compared with the neighbouring plains, and where the water springs from the sandstone strata are tolerably salubrious, but when the springs ooze from the limestone, as at Syudpoor, they cause indigestion and inaction of the viscera, being impregnated with lime. Amongst the trees are found the box, the oleander, the wild pomegranate in great beauty, impenetrable thickets of wild korounda which scent the atmosphere with their blossoms, the wild fig, the burgut (up to the summit) and on the crest the fir tree of small size. Springs of water are found close to the summit and a dwelling there would enjoy complete exemption from the heat of summer months. But at present they are infested with robbers, and it may be some time before tranquility is permanently established The abundance of water near the summit renders the establishment of castles there easy, and the abundance of wood, soft stone and lime gives facility to their erection.

6th May.—Visited the old site of Sohaun, formerly the capital of this district, in the hope of gleaning some particulars of its past history. But nothing is known of this country previous to the Muhammadan dynasties, and all the traditions of Alexander extant here are manifest inventions to account for the erection of old buildings whose history is lost. Still no news from Lahore. My work proceeds slowly amongst these rugged mountains, the zumeendars of which pay little attention to a summons to attend, although they are very civil to my people.

On the fourth, news was brought me that a Gukka named ———had driven off a hundred head of goats and some bullocks to the mountains.

I sent for the Gukkas with me and told them their cause was lost if the cattle were not immediately restored; that I was heartily ashamed of having taken any step in behalf of a race who were evidently mere thieves; that I supposed they were the opprest, but found them to be in fact the oppressors of the industrious ryutts, and therefore my enemies. They hung their heads, and Buhadoor Khaun started instantly with his followers in pursuit of the marauder. This day he came to report his success: all the cattle had been restored, and he hoped I would pardon and admit to my presence the offender. I replied that I must first hear from the owner's lips that his cattle are restored.

7th May 1847.—The owner of the cattle attended and declared that he had received back all his property and I have consented to allow—— to wait upon me to-morrow. He is of Shahb Ali Khaun's family, and must be fed from his jaghir. A younger brother of Shahb Ali Khaun, ———by name, surrendered himself with 15 armed followers, a few days ago. I have directed him to dismiss all but two. The number in my camp now is considerable and all are receiving daily rations from me as guests. These men dwell under bushes and caves, continually shifting their haunts in the dread of apprehension. Those with me, when their tails (*sic*) are on, muster I fancy about 200 armed men, most of whom are ryutts of the mountains and not exclusively robbers like themselves. On calling the mountaineers of Nurraie to arrange preliminaries for the settlement, I found that Zubrdust Khaun is not a zumeendar of Potah, the district designed for his collection, and that therefore he could make his collections only by aid of an armed force, which is precisely what the present arrangement aims at avoiding. It was therefore agreed to summon the most influential of the Potah zumeendars, Shah Ali Khaun, No. 2, and for this purpose I have despatched a purwana with a Chuprassie. Nasroo Ali Khaun was anxious to undertake the collection of Potah as well as Nurraie, but I think they are better divided. It is less offensive to the people to be taxed by their own chief zumeendar than by that of a neighbouring district, and two securities are better than one. I have sent also for one of the Kurrore zumeendars. Unfortunately in that district all are pretty nearly equal.

8th May 1847—Syudpoor.—Still no news from Lahore. The work is now considerably ahead and I am anxious to get on, but consider the settlement of the mountain districts of greater importance than the exact regularity of the boundary pillars, especially amongst the mountains, where there is seldom cultivated land.

9th May—Syudpoor.—Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud to-day read me a Roobakaree of the Resident at Lahore, from which it seems that the question of the Jelum frontier remained in suspense and that Dewan Joala Sahaie had turned against his own proposition and urged in preference others which would utterly ruin the Jumboo frontier.

The Potah zumeendar has not yet arrived.

10th May—Syudpoor.—I have been busy the last two days with the papers relative to lands eastward of the Husseli Canal in Pathankot and Shoojanpoor, about to be made over to the British Government. Full particulars will be found in my official correspondence. The zumeendars of Potah and Kurrore arrived late last night.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 9.—*From Captain* JAMES ABBOTT, *Boundary Commissioner, to Lieutenant-Colonel* HENRY M. LAWRENCE, *C.B., Resident at Lahore,—No. 141, dated Camp Oosmaun Qatur, Punjaub, 22nd May 1847.*

I HAVE the honour to forward my Journal from 11th to 20th of this month, the contents of which will, I trust, meet with your approval.

2. I beg to solicit your attention to the importance of the mineral productions of the mountain chain called Serra, dividing Khaunpoor from Rawul Pindi and intersected at Margulla. There is carriage road from Lahore to their foot, and the presence together of lime, iron and fuel in such abundance affords great facilities to the establishment of an iron foundry. The distance by carriage road from the Jelum, where water carriage is available, is about 60 miles, and the

large town of Rawul Pindi is in the immediate neighbourhood. Good water is abundant. The climate at the eastern foot of the mountains is extremely temperate, the hot westerly wind having to pass through the higher strata of the atmosphere in its passage thither, and on the mountain itself are many sites in which heat is unknown. The mountain itself enjoys a salubrious atmosphere. At the foot some villages are afflicted with sickness, and others are reputed healthy, a difference attributable seemingly to the water. Syudpoor is of the former ; Noorpoor of the latter class.

3. The effect of any establishment of this kind would be beneficial in thinning the excess of jungle which at present harbours robbers and in bringing the half wild tribes of the mountains and their skirts into more immediate contact with civilized life.

Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from 11th to 20th May 1847.

11th May 1847—Syudpoor near Rawul Pindi.—Although the Potah zumeendar is unable to attend and has sent only a deputy in the person of a Syud, I find it is impossible to delay the settlement of the Suttees of Nurraie, and have had them in my tent with the Jumboo agents, and declared to them the terms upon which the Maharaja of Jumboo is willing to forgive the past and the terms he has guaranteed for their future protection. These are, briefly, the surrender of all arms belonging to the Government; their peaceable return to their homes and duties, there to continue good subjects paying their rents and molesting no one; the re-edification of the principal forts, to be occupied by Government troops; and the attendance of a hostage or of hostages for the payment of the revenue. Upon these conditions the Maharaja entrusts the fiscal and judicial duties of the districts of Nurraie and Kurrore to the principal zumeendar of Nurraie, Nusroo Ali Khaun, assisted by his family; the revenue to be paid in three *kists* each season, or six *kists* per annum, to Jumboo;[1] the judicial causes to be tried by Punchayut according to immemorial usage, and the crimes

[1] The following remissions are granted :—To those in arrears five seasons, three are omitted ; to those in arrears three seasons, one-half ; to those whose houses are plundered or burnt, all, including the present.

involving blood to be referred for final sentence with the prisoner and the proceedings to Jumboo. Nusroo Ali Khaun, in considera- tion of the faithful discharge of these duties, will be secured in the possession of his jaghir of Alliote, and will receive a jaghir in land, value 500 rupees, in Kurri or Meerpoor.

Nusroo Ali Khaun made many difficulties: pleaded hard against the occupation or re-edification of the forts; that his jaghir might be in, or contiguous to, Nurraie; that all arrears should be remitted and the land tax abated. But he was answered upon all these heads by unan- swerable counter-objections. The presence of small garrisons obviates the necessity of large armies and all their attendant mischief. The jaghir is a species of hostage for good conduct; if close to the hills, when resumed for any offence, it would certainly be plundered by the late possessor. The remissions are handsome, and as for abatement their own statements cause me to believe the assessments light; at any rate none can be made until some proof of their undue weight be afforded. He then begged the coming night to consult with his rela- tions, expressing his doubts of being able to answer for the collections unless he had their solemn promise of assistance. This I am obliged to grant, although anxious to strike my camp.

12th May 1847—Syudpoor.—This day the covenant after much discussion, and many difficulties on the part of Nusroo Ali Khaun, was duly sealed by the Jumboo agents in my presence. The particulars will be despatched to the Resident at Lahore, and need not therefore be recapitulated. Nusroo Ali Khaun positively objected to his own son being a hostage, and the whole of the terms were about to be nullified, by his obstinacy, when it was arranged that three hostages, one from each of the principal tribes, should be substituted, to be relieved at pleasure every six months. This, as he cannot find any merchant to be his security, is absolutely necessary. His relations also solemnly covenanted with him to aid him in the execution of his new duties. I did not make the non-interference of the garri- son enter into this bond, reserving it for a separate assurance to be given to the British Government that the garrisons be not allowed to interfere in any manner with the people, so long as the revenue is paid, and as the people are orderly in their conduct. Nusroo

Ali absolutely refused the jaghir in Kurri, and the article of grant was omitted. But after the assembly was broken up he entreated me to pardon his refusal, and to have it sanctioned to him in Meerpoor. I believe it will be better to give it him, because the fear of forfeiting it will always be a restraint upon his conduct.

13th May 1847.—Marched to Goolreh, seven miles.

14th May.—Marched to Shaul Detta under the mountains. There is a singular recess in the cliffs, which are one huge mass of Tufa. The spot has been planted with beautiful trees, and a cistern when completed will receive the spring as it wells from the foot of the cliff. Niches are excavated in the cliff and a Hindoo faquir presides over a little temple. Shaul Detta is also celebrated for the tombs of some reputed saints. From Shaul Detta two foot-paths practicable to camels cross the mountains, the one direct to Khaunpoor, the other to Oosmaun Qatur.

15th May.—Marched over the mountains, the road having been previously cleared to Khaunpoor on the right bank of the Hurro Nuddi. The camels with their loads a little lightened came over with facility and Field Artillery could be carried over on elephants. The other road is said by Lieutenant Robinson to be much easier and susceptible of conversion into a gun road. A thick jungle occasionally infested with tigers accompanied me to Khaunpoor (*sic*), where my tent was pitched on the left bank of the Hurro opposite Khaunpoor, upon a turf shadowed with damson, bullace, and apricot trees of enormous size, festooned with beautiful vines. Khaunpoor is, however, a disagreeable place, in and after the rainy season, when mosquitoes swarm and fevers are abundant: and even now the temperature is perceptibly higher than I found it on the eastern foot of these mountains. The Hurro, a beautiful stream unwholesomely loaded with lime from the pebbles in its bed and the limestone rocks which it drains, becomes in the rains a river of amazing power, which, however, like most mountain torrents, speedily becomes fordable. It is at present entirely consumed in irrigation, and the villages below Khaunpoor are reduced to the greatest distress by the stoppage of its current.

16th and 17th May.—Halted at Khaunpoor to enable the Dewan's and Vuzeer's camps to join me; explored the river Hurro, and the

mountains over which the boundary runs. They are of old sandstone surmounted by primitive (apparently) [1] limestone; at least I have detected in it no remains of organized life, although at Nurr Topa there is a spring of asphaltum. Iron ore, the black oxide, is abundant at the eastern foot, and to-day I have picked up some beautiful specimens of the black oxide of copper. The limestone is of a deep steely blue, beautifully veined and susceptible of high polish. It is found in blocks of great size at Noorpoor Shahi and Syudpoor, and a fortune might be made here by any enterprizing individual who should set up an iron foundry and a marble warehouse. The abundance of lime and of wood would render the fusion of the metal easy: and natives are soon taught to work with the saw and chisel as well as Europeans. The presence of copper, if it prove abundant, is very important.

I hear of streams of mineral water in the neighbourhood, and of a spring of yellow water; I have sent for specimens of both.

18th May 1847.—Marched to Oosmaun Qatur, nine miles, and sent to offer a visit to Mr. Vans Agnew, who is expected at Hussun Abdal. Plotting, receiving razeenamahs, etc. I have stopped the further progress of the *Todah bundie*, as it has reached Gundgurh and Huzara, and as it seems improbable that this boundary will be confirmed, it appears to me inexpedient to set up amongst those excitable people boundary columns that are not to stand fast.

19th and 20th May.—Mr. Vans Agnew rode over to my tent on 19th, and we had a conference upon the state of the country and the measures to be immediately adopted. It seems highly advisable that the precautions he has recommended be promptly attended to, and that the Sikh Troops enter upon possession as soon as possible after the conclusion of the new Treaty of exchange. All my operations from the Jelum hither are rendered *null* by the new frontier; but it is impossible to describe in adequate terms the advantage gained by the people of the country west of the Jelum by the exchange, nor to the relief it affords to the Jumboo Government, by whom they never could have been held in hand. I purpose proceeding at once to Moozufferabad

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[1] The spring of asphalt leads me to question whether this limestone can be primitive, and to hope that it may contain coal.

and laying down the new frontier to the Indus. After which should it appear to Mr. Agnew, and myself, advisable that I should accompany him into Gilgit, I will endeavour to make arrangements to that effect. If otherwise, I will adopt the option granted me by the Resident at Lahore in his letter this day received.

The Trigonometrical Survey has just reached the Indus, and I have sent Lieutenants Robinson and Young to measure the base of verification. They will afterwards start from that base and run up the triangulation toward Cashmere, as far as the approach of the monsoon will permit. But I rather fear it may be necessary to defer the survey and delineation of the Jelum until the cold weather, as the unhealthy season in those parts is close at hand.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

P. S.—The universal cry of the people is when will the British interfere to save us from the oppressive system of *begarie.* It certainly is ruinous alike to ryutt and to Government, for it is the consumption of capital in the place of interest, and I am of opinion that it would be worth the while of any Government to establish upon the main roads relays of porters paid by Government and hired out by them to travellers. The expense would be repaid tenfold by the increase of cultivation, the happiness of the people, and the occupation by villages of the high roads, which this system has utterly desolated, so that no part of the jungle is so insecure to travellers as are the high roads of the Punjaub.

No. 10.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from 21st to 31st May 1847.

21st May 1847—Oosmaun Qatur.—The triangulation has now reached the eastern border of the Indus, about 15 miles above Attock, and I have given instructions to Lieutenants Robinson and Young to measure carefully a base of verification. To prevent suspicion of the

meditated exchange of territory, I am continuing the *Todah bundie*, but have arrested the Surveyors on this side of Gundgurh, deeming it unwise to set up a *Todah bundie*, which is likely to be cancelled, amongst that excitable clan. Meanwhile I am collecting all possible information respecting the country and the revenue, and bringing up arrears of work. Although I think it probable that the Jelum will become the boundary, I cannot march towards Moozufferabad whilst a doubt remains, because such a move would be regarded as a proof that the Huzara country no longer appertained to Jumboo, and, in the event of disappointment, might occasion commotions. But I am preparing for the hill journey, by hiring mules, and making up packing cases suited to their backs, which will prove the more necessary if I go into Gilgit with Mr. Vans Agnew.

22nd, 23rd, 24th May 1847—Oosmaun Qatur.—Engaged as above detailed, and anxiously expecting the announcement of a decision upon the negotiation pending at Lahore for an amended line of frontier.

26th May.—Marched to Sooltanpoor, seven miles under the Gundgurh mountain, a precipitous ridge of rock about 1,000 feet higher than the valleys of Huzara, Kote and Chuch. The Gundgurries have ceased plundering since the arrival of Mr. Vans Agnew and their consequent hopes of recovering the possessions to which they lay claim in the plains. The whole revenue of Gundgurh, amounting to about 1,500 rupees per annum, is given up to this family with the view of preventing them from indulging in their established habits of rapine. But the members of the family, being very numerous, are not contented with this concession, but live upon the property of their neighbours of the plains, asserting that the whole country at the foot of this mountain belonged to their ancestors and was wrested from them by tyranny. They are probably right, and, if so, form a few of many hundreds who have similar grievances. Mr. Agnew informs me that he has recommended that an additional jaghir of 8,634 rupees be added to their present jaghir of 1,500 as the sole method of keeping them quiet, short of extermination.

27th, 28th, 29th May—Sultanpur.—Employed as on previous days. On the 29th I received authority from the Resident at Lahore for laying down the new boundary upon the Jelum and to make over to the Jumboo Government at once about 1½ lacs of rupees of land about Jumboo. It

is not possible, without a survey, to make over more than about 1 lac or 1,20,000 rupees worth.

30th May 1847.—Issued a Roobakaree directing the Kardars of the Lahore Government to make over to those of Jumboo, on the 15th of the month of Harr—

	Rs.
The lately transferred villages of Kurri ...	22,000
The ditto ditto of Koolut ...	2,000
The ditto ditto of Devigurh, Keerpind	12,500
The Sikh purgunnahs of Runjeetgurh, roughly estimated at	45,000
Joora	4,500
Urniya	6,000
Soochaytgurh Burra	9,000
Total ...	1,01,000

But the value of the three latter purgunnahs may prove considerably in excess of this estimate.

31st May.—Purposed marching this morning for Moozufferabad, but have halted to accommodate Mr. Agnew's movements, who diverges to visit the countries bordering the Jelum and rejoins me at Moozufferabad. I have directed Lieutenants Robinson and Young to march to Wuzzeerabad on completing the base of verification, as it will not be possible for them to work up with me any further this season without imminent risk of fever. At Wuzzeerabad there are buildings unoccupied, where they may find shelter whilst preparing a map of our operations. They have both been working most zealously and cheerfully, and often at the risk of their health; for the work of more than a single season has been effected by them this year under many circumstances of difficulty, from having no second theodolite nor any instrument by which very correct levels can be taken. I march to-morrow.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

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No. 11.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from 1st to 11th June 1847.

1st June 1847—Kote, Huzara.—Marched to Kote in progress to Moozufferabad, surveying the road *en route.*

2nd June—Hurkishengurh.—Marched to Hurkishengurh, or Hurripoor, the latter being the name of the city. It is very slowly recovering from the plunder and violence it received owing to the infamous conduct of its Governor, Moolraj. Confidence is not yet restored. The walls are still in ruins and it is not protected by the fort, simply because the garrison must not be expected to sally for its rescue. I begged the Dewan, Adjoodhia Pershaud, to take immediate steps towards repairing the walls and gates. The people will fear to return to it in its present defenceless condition. Hurkishengurh, the fort, is a smart little castle of earth with the most formidable of military obstacles, a wide and very deep ditch, which can be flooded at pleasure. It is in tolerable repair standing about a quarter of a mile east of the city. The temperature here is very pleasant, and this valley must be high. Unfortunately during the rains fever prevails here to a frightful extent and pervades all the rice valleys from hence to Moozufferabad.

3rd June.—Halted here to make enquiries and arrangements, and rode over the valley which is in parts depopulated by the forays of the said Moolraj. Notice came to-day that Dewan Kurrum Chund having disobeyed the most positive prohibitions to move his troops further into the country of the Dhoonds, which Mr. Vans Agnew is actually *en route* to settle, had met with a shameful defeat from the armed peasantry. He of course himself was not engaged, as it is not the fashion for Sirdars to run any personal risk. The event is most unfortunate, for there is no dealing with a people flushed with victory, and the incident is sufficient to cause a general rising.

4th June.—Marched to——— 10 miles.

5th June.—Marched to——— 10 miles.

Marched to Nowa Shihr, 17 miles, a town of huts in a singularly beautiful and fertile valley, of considerable elevation. The wheat is still standing, although some of the rain crops are in ear. This would form a most desirable residence but for the fever with which it is visited

during the rains and the swampiness of the soil at that season. I sought in vain for a quarter of an acre of ground near the town free from cultivation as a site for a shed to shelter me during the rains. I have ordered the erection of one, however, upon ground to be rented during occupation. The fever here seems to be less universal than in Pukli and Hurkishengurh.

Halted to make enquiries and arrangements. The Corps here is in a state little short of mutiny, owing to its being eight months in arrears of pay. This leads inevitably to cruel extortion and oppression on the part of the soldiery. The Indians, however, are doves compared with the Rohilla Corps (as it is called) composed of Eusofzyes, etc., from beyond the Indus. These men are brutal and rapacious to a degree, and should not be entertained in any country under any circumstances, as they make the rule of any Government who employs them hateful to the people. I have represented to Dewan Kurrum Chund the pressing necessity which exists for satisfying the just claims of these men, whose revolt at this moment would cause inextricable confusion, and he has promised that two months' pay expected immediately shall be issued to them. I rather hope, than expect, that this promise may be fulfilled. Avarice has no reason. Heavy complaints are brought of the daily, hourly, breach of the solemn convenant made by Joalla Sahaie, the Dewan, of the remission of past offences, and the abolition of the *begarie* system. It appears that numbers are fined or imprisoned as concerned in the past disturbances, and that *begaries* are carried forty, fifty, a hundred miles from their homes and detained 20 and 30 days from their ploughs at the most busy season of husbandry.

The people are evidently determined not to submit to this, and they lay their complaints before me as a last peaceful resource. Their method of procedure is cool and determined, and little exactions practised by all native Kardars they resent as breach of faith. This fine spirit, whilst it assures me of the impossibility of the Jumboo Government retaining long their present possession, makes me anxious for the future under the operation of the late exchange; for the utmost vigilance does not prevent the crimes of native agents, and the people are confident in their own resources. Much may be done by the presence of a British Officer, if empowered to remove and appoint Kardars. But if these functionaries are not under his control, his interference may

only forfeit for us the high estimation in which at present they hold our justice and our power.

8th June 1847.—Marched to Maunseera, 16 miles. Found a regiment of Jumboo troops in the town, quartering themselves not only in the bunnia's shops but in the houses and amongst the women of the unfortunate inhabitants. The troops have no tents, had brought no cooking utensils, and of course were exercising the right which might confers to make use of the zenanas and cooking utensils of their fellow-subjects. Can it be wondered that any people possessing means of resistance should revolt against such tyranny? Rain came on after noon and lasted all night.

9th June.—The rain of yesterday prevented the exchange of carriage from camels to bullocks and mules, which here becomes necessary. Up to Maunseera the route lies through long valleys bounded by mountains. The last stage is rather rugged, but a gun road might be made so far. Assailed by numberless complaints of extortion and oppression, of all which I have taken memoranda. I have begged the zumeendars to prevent all commotions, as in such circumstances my power of redressing their wrongs will be forfeited. Meanwhile the erection of a bungalow or rather shed for my accommodation at Nowa Shihr, and arrangements here for similar accommodation, assure them of my return amongst them. They hail me wherever I appear with beaming countenances, which would be very gratifying could I hope to fulfil a fourth part of their expectations.

10th June.—Marched to Hubeeb-oolla ke Gurhi, a mud castle on the eastern bank of the Koonhar river. This stream of small span is just now 10 feet deep and racing past with great velocity. It cannot be passed by boat nor is there any ford, but an excellent bridge has been constructed across it, passable by loaded bullocks, the abutments being formed of piles of fagots supporting projecting beams of timber over which the stems of trees are laid. These are boarded for the causeway, and the projecting timbers of the abutments are held down by large heaps of boulders. This bridge, which is common in the mountains for streams of small space, might at small expense be made durable; but at present it is generally swept away by the floods of the

monsoon. The boundary here is not easily arranged owing to the estate of the Jaghirdar, Sooltan Hooseyn Khaun, lying across the Koonhar and the Jelum, whilst that of the Jaghirdar, Umeen Khaun, lies on both sides of the Koonhar.

These men are very tenacious of ancestral possessions and would not willingly take any exchange. Umeen Khaun's jaghir might be disposed of by bringing it all into the Lahore boundary and making his eastern boundary (a mountain ridge well defined) the boundary of the kingdoms; but Sooltan Hooseyn's lands westward of the Jelum will, I fear, occasion much difficulty, as the resumption or forced exchange would be an unpopular act in these parts, and it would be difficult, if possible, to ensure to him *bonâ fide* possession of anything given him in exchange by the Jumboo Government. The Jumboo Government claims Hubeeb-oolla's castle, but so far as I have yet heard it seems to me part of the dependency of Huzara. From hence northward the road is so extremely difficult that I fear I must retrace my steps as far as Pukli, in order to find a traversable path northward.

11th June 1847—Hubeeb-oolla's castle.—Halted here to-day to allow Mr. Agnew to rejoin me. I can, however, hear nothing of his movements. Rode out to explore the boundary of Umeen-oolla's jaghir. Eastward a high spur projected from the snowy mountains.

I believe the Huzara boundary from that point westward will prove to be a snowy ridge. But nothing certain can be learnt at this distance. Some of the tribes have never paid tribute, and others have been brought to pay even an assessment last year (*sic*). None of the countries yield a revenue worth the expense of collection, but it is important to obtain tribute for Lahore from as many of them as possible, to prevent their being invaded or oppressed by the Jumboo Government. This narrow valley is hot and is said to be unhealthy during the monsoon.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 12.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from 11th to 20th June 1847.

11th, 12th and 13th June 1847.—I remained at this spot to enable Mr. Vans Agnew to rejoin me. During his absence all intercourse was cut off between us, for the Dhoonds, with whom that gentleman was negotiating, are too divided amongst themselves to be able to aid in the transmission of letters. I became rather anxious at Mr. Agnew's protracted absence and silence, but on the evening of the 13th he joined my camp and gave me the particulars of his negotiation.

From this it would seem that the Dhoonds and Kurrals, two tribes occupying the strongest country of Huzara and separated by blood and hereditary prejudices from the Pathan, Mogul, and Gukka tribes of that country, live in a state of equality, acknowledging at present no ruler and being amenable to no authority; that they settle their political dealings by assemblies called jirgahs, and from their isolated position amongst wild mountains and fastnesses have little idea of any world but their own petty province. Three Syuds, Shurff Shah, Syud Shah and Mhaitab Shah by name, exercise some influence over the Dhoonds, but it is limited and uncertain. Amongst the Kurrals, Hussun Ali is the hereditary chief of one clan and Fatteh Ali Khaun of another. The country of the Dhoonds is a small tract lying between the right bank of the Jelum and a huge spur from the predominant summit of Mochpoora, then turning westward by south and occupying the valley of one of the feeders of the Hurro river. The Kurral country lies at the south-western foot of the Mochpoora summit in the corner formed by the Dhoonds of the Jelum and those of the Hurro. The country of both tribes is very difficult, and a large force is requisite to give certainty to any attack upon it. Mr. Vans Agnew recommends that roads be made along the ridges leading in two directions into the heart of the country so as to render the passage of an army comparatively certain. This appears to me very sound advice; of its feasibility I can better judge when I shall know more of the country.

The Dhoonds and Kurrals were brought under subjection by the Sikh Government. Hussun Ali, in addition to his jaghir of about 3,500 rupees, was allowed half the actual revenue of the Kurral country for keeping up a force to overawe the people and ensure the Kardar from molestation. It would seem that for this consideration, amounting

to about 6,000 rupees, he was expected to exercise this influence over the Dhoonds also, and that until the whole country fell into confusion he was tolerably punctual to his engagement. At present the tribes are in a state of rebellion and the difficulty will be to cause Hussun Ali to make the proper submission. Should he do so, I am of opinion that he should be reinstated in his former possessions (the *chowth*) as the simplest, and indeed only, method, not involving loss of controlling so strong a country. He has not come in to Mr. Vans Agnew, but has sent messages. It appears that he is extremely suspicious. The Syuds of the Dhoonds were conciliated by the Sikh Government with a jaghir and a yearly pension of 500 rupees, but this salary was extended to only two of the houses, and the third, Mhaitab Shah, was not provided for. He has come in to Mr. Agnew and lent him all the aid in his power, and I think it will be wise to follow Mr. Agnew's suggestion and give him a salary of 250 rupees a year from the revenue of the Dhoond country on their return to allegiance.

14th June 1847—Shinkiari, 13 miles.—Marched hither *en route* for the northern boundary of Huzara. The state of things in the Jumboo Army is very perilous. The troops are in great distress for pay, and so great is the want of money that I am informed that 250 rupees which I have borrowed from the Government could not be raised until the Dewan, Kurrum Chund, had pledged his bracelets for it. I am discouraging complaints as much as possible, and assuring those who complain of having been made pay in excess of their rents, that the balance shall be placed to their credit in the succeeding——.

15th June.—15 miles. Marched up the mountains to Ull, belonging to the Pukli Collectorate.

16th and 17th June.—Made an excursion to inspect the boundary northward, which is here formed by a low range of hills circling two sides of an elevated valley of Chuttur, these hills being spurs from the mountains walling the right bank of the Koonhar valley. Here we were met by Moozuffur Khaun, a refugee from Pukli and a zumeendar of the Nundihar valley, the people of which are independent and anxious to retain their independence free from all molestation. He himself has some requests relating to former farms and lands held by him in Pukli. This line of boundary is clear and well defined so far

as I can ascertain in my hurried examination. It depends as usual upon drainage. When the boundary of Balakote is settled, it may be expedient to define it by a landmark upon the river, but these terminal indications may, I think, generally be dispensed with amongst the mountains where brick and mortar masonry has never been seen.

18th June 1847—Owgha.—Marched down the Baee valley to Owgha, 14 miles. These valleys have an easy slope, and might be made practicable for field artillery on elephants at no great expense. This valley is tributary to the valley of Agrore, the head of which meets the hills dividing Nundihar from Chuttur and forming the northern boundary of Huzara determined by the drainage of the hills. The valley of Agrore belongs to Huzara and the boundary lies upon the ridge of the mountains of its western or right side until they reach the river Indus.

19th June.—Rode to the boundary in the Agrore valley and then returned and ascended a small valley on my return southwards.

20th June.—Marched to the Pukli valley and camped at Khahi on the river Sirrun. Sent to desire Vuzeer Roop Chund to move his camp hither for a conference, as it is now necessary to give orders for final arrangements. No news as yet of the progress of the relieving force, although Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud has been desired to ascertain and report it. It is desirable that the Jumboo troops should get clear of the rivers before the heavy rains shall have set in. I had directed the building of sheds at Kote to shelter my camp, but am answered that no building materials are procurable there.

I have omitted to mention under date the 14th June that upon the suggestion of Mr. Vans Agnew, in which I concur, I have paid in advance to the Syuds, Syud Shah and Shurff Shah, one half of their yearly pension commencing with the rain crops of the current year not yet collected and given them a purwana assuring them that, on the return to allegiance of the Dhoonds, their salary shall be punctually paid them. I have also granted a purwana to the Syud Mhaitab Shah promising him a salary of 250 rupees yearly on return of the Dhoonds to allegiance. These will, I trust, meet with approval and confirmation.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 13.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from the 21st to the 30th June 1847.

21st June 1847—Pukli, Huzara.—Halted here to-day to arrange for the evacuation of Pukli by the Jumboo Troops. Directed Dewan Kurrum Chund to march out the force by regiments at intervals of two days, both to enable the troops to cross without confusion the Jelum, which is not bridged at Moozufferabad and also to prevent the chance of mutiny of regiments in such a state of destitution. I should be reluctant to denude Pukli of troops even for a few days were it not that their position here is becoming critical for want of pay, and that the crossing of the Jelum and even of the Koonhar may a few days hence be an operation of danger. Mr. Vans Agnew recommended that the measure should long since have been carried into effect. But his arguments did not convince me.

22nd June.—Marched to Mansera, where I expected to find the Nowa Shihr Regiment (Nathoo Shah's) as it was generally believed to have marched hither from sheer famine. They were, however, still at their post, although they have vainly sued for 1 rupee per man, promising to stand fast 15 days upon that allowance. I have given orders for their march to Moozufferabad. Here I found, in spite of the strictest orders to the Jumboo agents not to levy any more revenue, that the houses of the zumeendars were still besieged by their soldiers, and have therefore desired the Vuzeer, Roop Chund, to remain here to prevent this breach of authority, which the people would be likely enough to resist now that they know themselves transferred to the Lahore Government. Heavy rain.

23rd June—Bilhug.—Marched to Bilhug, a village of Tunnawal, passing through the open and fertile valley of Mansera, which joins that of the river Sirrun. Heavy rain.

24th June—Shirwaun.—Marched at 1 P.M., first over undulating hills and then over some of the wildest specimens of mountain ridge and ravine, to the table summit of Shirwaun, divided on this side from Mansera by the torrent Muhuguli. This road, or rather footpath, is not practicable to elephants. But it might be made so, the slopes being not very abrupt and the formation a clay slate easily worked. The ascents and descents, however, are very exhausting to cattle, and I

rather fear I must relinquish the purpose I had sketched out of making this the main depôt for the troops, as the country around produces no spare food and the expense and difficulty of lifting it up hither would be great. Artillery also would meet with many extra difficulties in their movements. It appears to be the most salubrious atmosphere in Huzara, a superiority arising from its height and sterility—a small fort with a garrison of 150 men is here. The scenery is squalid; houses without windows built of dingy clay slate; a fort of the same; mountain tops naked and wretched; and a people miserably poor; the very fields a shingle of the same clay slate. But the water is the first pure fluid I have tasted since entering Huzara, and the air is equally delicious. The range of the thermometer just now from 60 to 78°; and the altitude, so far as my imperfect thermometer allows of calculation, about 5,500 feet.

25th and 26th June 1847—Shirwaun.—Halted here under torrents of rain. Laid down a plan for a small bungalow on the hill top to serve as an asylum during the rains. The collections I found going on actively here in despite of my prohibition and the people loudly complaining of injustice and extortion. They do not comprehened the justice of the extra items, *russoom* and *nuzzurana*, although they have been subjected to them some time, and in many cases no allowance has been made for the rents actually paid to Nawab Khaun, and for which they had a promise of indemnity. This I have ascertained by careful enquiry. I have reprimanded the Kardar for his unjustifiable conduct, but he pleads the orders of Hurri Singh and assures me he has received from that functionary no intimation of my order to cease collecting.

27th June—Khaki.—As soon as the rain had ceased, I started for the plains passing over two ridges, the 2nd (Bilhiari) being the main spine of this isolated cluster of mountains. The path susceptible of conversion into a good mountain road. Was benighted in the ravine of Khaki, where the rain again came on; distance 12 miles.

28th June—Hurkishengurh.—Passed down the smooth ravine by Shingari to Hurkishengurh, 15 miles. This ravine seems to enjoy more exemption from fever than others in Huzara. The descent is very considerable, but very gradual, and the ravine expands into an

open valley, joining the level amphitheatre of Huzara proper. Here I found the Cavalry Regiment from Peshawur and got intelligence of the near approach of Bhoop Singh's and Bahadoor Singh's Regiments with six field pieces. I therefore desired Bukshi Hurri Singh to prepare for his departure. Finding that he has neglected all my instructions, I have declined his visit until he shows some symptom of compliance. I beg, however, to state that the Kardars are in a difficult position, besieged by troops, long in arrears, whom they have no prospect of being able to satisfy; and that however I may deem it necessary in explanation of facts to notice their disobedience, or to evince anger towards them, I should regret to see them singled out for the displeasure of higher authority for having acted as most natives would act (or perhaps a little better) under the same trying circumstances. Their sloth is born with them and nourished by their education; and they are placed at present in a formidable strait.

29th and 30th June 1847—Hurkishengurh.—The Gundgurrias, for whom so much interest has been made, have recommenced plundering and murdering on a large scale. About ten days ago they carried off 60 head of cattle and one bunnia from Kote and three days ago were caught in the act of plundering by an ambush of zumeendars who killed five, hand to hand, receiving themselves many wounds, and last night, in dastardly revenge of this check, the Gundgurrias crept down upon the defenceless village of Bukka and murdered in cold blood three sleeping women and several children. It seems therefore highly expedient that an example be made of them. They had full assurance from Mr. Agnew and from me that their claims were under favorable consideration, although from the first my hope was slight that any kindness unpreceded by severity would prevent the lawless and murderous habits in which they have lived from infancy and from generation to generation.

30th June.—Hurkishengurh.—The two Infantry Regiments above named arrived here this day. The guns are one march in the rear. I find, on ordering Bukshi Hurri Singh to move out all but a single regiment, that he is utterly unprovided with carriage, seeming to have depended upon carrying out his baggage upon *begaries*, which I assure him he cannot have: some delay therefore will be necessary.

Meanwhile I have posted two companies at Kote, and directed the construction of a tower, to contain 50 men, at the foot of the mountain on their principal sally port, so that it will be difficult for them to venture into the plain to plunder as they leave an enemy in their rear, who on the alarm will sally out between them and their retreat. I begged Goolab Singh to erect this tower last cold season, and he promised it should be immediately done. But not a stone was ever laid, although I was at great pains to impress upon him its importance, the whole valley thereabouts being depopulated by the depredations of the Gundgurrias. This is, however, but a temporary measure, and it seems to me that there are but two expedients offering any hope of suppressing this scourge of the country, either to seize and transplant the entire clan to equal pecuniary advantages in the wide plains, or to establish a fortified cantonment in the very midst of them. If the latter should prove feasible, the force which is generally at Hussun Ubdal might canton on the Gundgurh mountain, where the whole hill and plain around would be under its control. This I think, according to my present experience, preferable to vexing and exasperating the Srikotis by re-establishing the Fort in their mountain as they never plunder and are respected for their good faith far and near. The Srikote garrison does not obviate the necessity of a force at Hussun Ubdal, but I think the Gundgurh Fort would be quite sufficient to protect the whole circle of country. I have, however, yet to see the ground.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 14.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 1st to the 12th July 1847.

1st July 1847—Hurkishengurh.—Colonels Bhoop Singh and Bahadoor Singh with their respective Corps of Infantry and six guns arrived.

2nd July.—Inspected the guns and called for returns of ammunition, etc., from the regiments and Artillery. The guns I shall be able to make very serviceable, but they have been sent in a crippled condition. The carriage of one is mere touchwood, that of another belongs to an entirely different gun. A third is at present unserviceable for want of cup squares; none of the ammunition boxes are water-tight

and most of the wheels require instant repair. But there is nothing that cannot speedily be remedied, the guns themselves (excepting the vent of the cast-iron piece) being sound.

The want of ammunition is a more serious matter. They have but half a dozen rounds made up and only a few maunds of gun-powder in reserve. The Cavalry Corps is wholly without ammunition. The Infantry Corps have the one 30, and the other, 40 rounds per man with no reserve. I have sent emergent orders on all the neighbouring towns for lead and gun-powder, but it may be some time before the deficiency is made up. The arrival of the guns has had a happy effect. The Torbaila zumeendar, who had shut himself up in his fort on the Indus, this day came to tender his submission and was followed by him of Srikote.

3rd July 1847.—Srikote.—As great complaint is made by the Srikote zumeendars of the over-assessment of their lands, I made this the excuse of a sudden visit to their mountain, being more particularly anxious to ascertain the feasibility of compelling obedience and the necessity, or otherwise, of re-edifying their detested fort, as also to get a view of the Gundgurh mountain in reverse. In all these objects I succeeded completely. The people looked at me sulkily at first and seemed astonished that I should be found there, but I speedily convinced them it was better I should visit them alone than with an army, and I have promised that if they pay their rents duly and do not harbour robbers they shall have a bungalow instead of a fort. I think the experiment worth trial, for Srikote Fort does not command Gundgurh, and the Srikotis are upright, inoffensive people. I believe that the frequent appearance amongst them of a British Agent would be sufficient to ensure regularity of collections, if the assessment be properly reduced. Hill districts cannot pay at the rate of half produce which is rack-rent in the plains. A plough in the mountains is restricted, not as in the plains by the limits of physical power of man and bullocks, but by the bare rocks, and the number of ploughs is no criterion of the extent of culture. Many ploughs are not working one-fourth of the area for which a plough is calculated; many not one-eighth. The number of hands and with them the number of ploughs is continually on the increase, but the arable area remains straitened as at first and the revenue ought to be

lowered in proportion as the ploughs increase. The arable land of Srikote is miserably confined and produces only Indian corn and those not the best crops. It is wholly dependent upon the rains, which in Huzara are very uncertain. I think its present estimated assessment of 5,000 rupees at least double what is just, and do not wonder at the difficulty of collecting it. Hill lands in Huzara can never be justly made to pay more than one-fourth of their produce. This supposes them comparatively rich and not wholly dependent upon the rains. But generally speaking one-fifth or one-sixth is a fairer estimate, and in some cases both policy and justice would be consulted if only *nuzzurana* were taken from them. The Fort of Srikote has been built with unusual care. It is supplied with water in a cistern and crowns a small eminence upon the table summit of the mountain overhanging the village.

The ascent from the plain is up a deep ravine of easy acclivity which leads to within one-third of the entire height from summit. The pathway is afterwards steep, but there is no very formidable impediment. Returned in the evening.

4th July 1847—Hurkishengurh.—Lieutenant Lumsden favored me with a visit to-day to discuss the Gundgurh question. His sentiments agree with mine upon the impossibility of dealing with them until they shall have been chastised. In answer to his summons of attendance they have insolently replied that they will come when they have received the terms they dictated to Mr. Vans Agnew, but not sooner; meanwhile they lose no opportunity of plunder and wholesale murder.

5th and 6th July.—On the second of this month I sent Bahadoor Singh's corps to take post at Mansera and Noashira, and on the 4th transferred the custody of the fort of Hurkishengurh from the Jumboo to the Lahore Government. My time is occupied in receiving petitions, registering complaints, enquiring into the state of different districts, with the view to a just assessment. But the country is in a disagreeable state without Kardars, and I am anxiously expecting the arrival of these functionaries.

7th, 8th, 9th July.—These days were almost a blank from an attack of bilious fever.

10th July.—Feeling recovered, I rode down to Barookote to examine that place in reference to its capabilities as a cantonment. The fort

stands upon an eminence commanding a beautiful view of the valley of the Sirrun. There is abundance of wood, water and grass, and only the universal drawback of all the valleys of Huzara,—fever in the rainy season. I purposed marching next day to Torbaila, but a letter from Khaunpoor advised me of the outbreak there of one Ata Ali, Gukka, who with 100 men is threatening the town and plundering the villages. I therefore sent orders to Colonel Reechpal Singh at Kote to hasten to Khaunpoor (12 miles) with a wing of his corps and to attack Ata Ali wherever he should hear of him and provide for the protection of the country. Meanwhile not feeling over-confident in the promptitude of native agents, I at once took saddle for Torbaila, making the new garrison I had brought with me follow, and, in some little apprehension of a rebuff from the garrison I was about to exclude, rode to Torbaila. I met, however, with no difficulty. The garrison admitted me and turned out at my requisition, and as soon as my people arrived, I duly installed them. This was some relief to my mind as the castle is a very important post. I then rode back to Barookote.

11th July.—Marched to Kote and found that the wing of Dhara Singh's Regiment had started for Khaunpoor the previous night.

12th July—Khaunpoor.—Marched to Khaunpoor; arrived just in time to witness the escape of Ata Ali's banditti over the high mountains and the last dropping fire of the detachment sent to apprehend him. It appears that Reechpal Singh, Colonel, on getting my purwana started promptly enough for Khaunpoor, a distance of 12 miles, but that on the way it appeared to him more prudent to halt and lose a day. Meanwhile, Ata Ali and his gang came down to plunder Khaunpoor, set on fire and plundered the village of Sudhan and commenced firing upon the little town from the opposite bank of the Hurroo. There was a garrison of 40 men in the *gurhie*, and two of the Gukka Jaghirdars with about 15 soldiers were present, but all were overawed, until at length a Jemadar of the army of Jumboo, who had come hither to make purchases, stepped forward and invited the others to follow him. All remaining silent he went down alone, when the cry of shame set up by the bystanders induced the Gukkas and a few others to follow him. Shots were exchanged, and in a short time Ata Ali commenced a retreat in spite of his numbers and was in full retreat, when Colonel Reechpal Singh and his

wing came up and commenced manœuvring very systematically and slowly in his rear. Of course every man escaped. The Colonel pleads sickness on the road, but this was no excuse for keeping back the whole of his party. A single company would have sufficed to save the town.

Unfortunately it is difficult to proceed summarily against Ata Ali without bringing on prematurely a campaign with the Dhoonds, upon whose country he falls back, but I am endeavouring to organize some means of apprehending him. He came in on Mr. Van Agnew's invitation and was offered a moderate jaghir, but he retired again suddenly from some ill-grounded apprehension and is now joined by many of the hill zumeendars, who are too weak to resist him. I purpose halting here to-morrow to complete arrangements for the protection of this district and then to return to Kote.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 15.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from the 13th to the 27th July 1847.

13th July 1847—Khaunpoor.—Halted here to make arrangements for the protection of the town. The wildest mountains commence at this point and run back into the still wilder country of the Dhoonds and Kurrals, who are ever ready to assist in mischief, and this renders the protection of the mountain villages difficult; any freebooter who can muster 20 or 30 men can compel the mountain villagers to join him, however disinclined they may be, and only the establishment of chains of forts can effectually control such irregularities.

14th July—Kote.—Returned to Kote, leaving two companies of Reechpal Singh's Regiment to protect Khaunpoor. I have also sent a summons to the zumeendars to separate themselves from Ata Ali upon pain of sharing his fate, and have supplied the garrison of Chujjia (farther in the mountains) with pay.

15th July.—Lieutenants Lumsden and Nicholson came over to see and consult with me, and Sirdars Chuttur Singh and Jhundur Singh this day arrived. The former is less old and emaciated than I had been

given to suppose. The Kardars have not yet arrived. It is very unfortunate that the country should thus be left for nearly a month without any visible rule ; and I cannot imagine why the Kardars could not proceed dak on business of such pressing import. During all this interval the glimpse of liberty is unsettling the minds of this most excitable people. Jirgahs have been assembled at Torbaila, the result of which was the refusal of the bunnias to sell food to the garrison. Fortunately I had foreseen this probability and already sent a supply of wheat etc., and ammunition, and strengthened the garrison by fifty more hands.

16th July 1847.—Lieutenants Lumsden and Nicholson fully agree with me in all my views regarding the Gundgurrias and in the expediency of a speedy settlement; but Lieutenant Nicholson is expecting another corps at Hussun Ubdal and thinks it advisable to wait for it. Sardar Chuttur Singh has proceeded to Hurkishengurh, where he will occupy the fort. I have issued purwanas to the officers and zumeendars to yield obedience to all his instructions. The weather continues sultry in the extreme ; the hot winds are unabated.

17th July.—The rains recommenced to-day with violence. Many irregularities are going on in the district for want of Kardars. Murders and robberies which at present there is no means of effectually punishing.

18th July.—Continued rain. A report from the Commandant at Nowa Shihr states that the zumeendars have been holding jirgahs and that the bunnias in consequence refuse to sell grain to the garrison. I have directed him to send me, under a guard, any bunnia guilty of such conduct, but do not implicitly credit the report. However for security I have ordered up a supply of corn for the garrison. There are, however, ample assurances that those who think Huzara can be ruled without a constant exhibition of force are not acquainted with the spirit of the people. At present the people have everything to hope from the new Government and are not, I think, in any way molested. Yet at Torbaila there were undoubted symptoms of a disposition to resist authority. At Mansera the same complaint was made of bunnias being prevented selling grain and now a similar report is brought from Nowa Shihr, the two latter forts lying in the principal granaries of the country.

19th July 1847—Kote.—Rain all the morning. I have this day issued a purwana to Khaun-i-Zeman, Chief of the Tarkhailees (Gundgurrias), to the effect that, as he is not himself implicated in any of the recent forays or murders, and as I am vested with full authority to settle his claims with equity, it is necessary that he should attend for the purpose, promising him safe conduct to and fro, and denouncing him, in case of disobedience, as a wilful rebel. He is at feud with the Simulkundies, the authors of the latter cruelties; and should he comply with my summons it may be good policy to mark the distinction between them. But he has never yet attended any summons, and the general belief is that he will not come. The open purwana from the Durbar to Bhaee Mow Singh has had the effect which might be calculated. The Gundgurrias have sent over their property and families beyond the Indus and are themselves ready for a start, such at least is my latest intelligence; some, as I have witnessed, have left their mountain to take refuge in the villages hereabouts, in dread of suffering with the guilty. These I have assured of protection. But I greatly fear it will not now be possible to catch the chief offenders.

20th July—Kote.—I have been collecting together garrisons for the unoccupied forts, entertaining as many of the old garrisons as appear free from sinister bias. But have carefully excluded all Rohillas whose habits of plunder, contempt of discipline and want of gallantry are notorious.

In Hurri Singh's time there were 4,000 troops in garrison occupying 80 forts and towers; not much more than a third of this number of forts will be requisite. But the more I see of the country the more satisfied I am that my first impression was correct, *viz.*, that its military tenure must be by forts, or at least, if these be not garrisoned, that four times the numerical strength of field force will barely suffice to hold the country. Every mountain calls for several strong detachments around its roots, to prevent its becoming the stronghold of plunderers, and as these plunderers are often joined by the people in numerous bands, no small detachment without walls would be in safety.

21st July.—Khaun-i-Zeman, Chief of the Gundgurrias, has answered my purwana submissively, assuring me that he has made the

first march to join me; but begging me to go half way to meet him. He has never attended any Governor or Prince, and prides himself much upon this reservation, and quotes instances of Governors and of Mr. Vans Agnew going to meet him. I have replied that, if he wishes to establish his pretended rights, he must attend to show that he is a vassal and worthy of consideration; if he does not attend he must abide the consequences as a rebel. I sent to-day a chuprassie and an escort to meet and give him assurance; but they found that he had not descended the mountain to the village appointed by him as the rendezvous, and they returned at night without him.

22nd July 1847.—Khaun-i-Zeman having sent other messages begging me to send to meet him Goolam Khaun of Huzara, I sent for that Chief, but he did not arrive until evening when he started at once to meet the Gundgurria. Lieutenants Nicholson and Lumsden came over to see me to-day and to arrange the measures of coercion which it seems probable we must resort to and which I confess I prefer in the present case to conciliatory measures, the Gundgurrias being over-confident in their numbers, the supposed strength of their mountain and the sympathy of their brethren, the Eusofzyes, over the Indus. Indeed, although all the Chiefs condemn them, none would like to see this nest of hornets crushed or dispersed, because in case of an outbreak with the existing Government, their alliance becomes most formidable.

23rd July.—The party yesterday sent to Khaun-i-Zeman returned to-day without him: but he sent at night to say that he would positively come, having been alarmed I believe by Goolam Khaun's warning to decide at once either to come or to provide for the safety of his wives. I rode over to Hurkishengurh to return the visits of Sirdars Chuttur Singh and Jhundur Singh: returned in the evening.

24th July.—Khaun-i-Zeman this day actually came in to the astonishment of all and rather to my perplexity, for his affairs were more easily and satisfactorily to be settled had he continued contumacious to the last, than can be the case now that he is entitled to consideration with such pretensions as he urges upon the revenue. He is a large man with prominent and fine features: but is disfigured with a large

goitre. I received him with much attention, for although there is no great complaisance in a zumeendar waiting upon his superior, yet it had cost the old man a very severe struggle and was contrary to the advice and feeling of most of his tribe, who pride themselves upon their Chief's exemption from all attendance. I am persuading him to go to-morrow and pay his respects to the Sirdars and Dewan at Hurkishengurh.

25th July 1847.—Khaun-i-Zeman is gone to pay his respects at Hurkishengurh, to my great relief. I have vainly endeavoured to procure from the Lahore authorities there any particulars relative to his claims: and I have now written for such to Bhaee Mow Singh of Punja Sahib. I have but an indistinct impression of Mr. Vans Agnew's statement, as I did not imagine the settlement of them would have fallen to me, Gundgurh proper belonging fiscally to Chuch, though geographically to Huzara.

26th July.—Khaun-i-Zeman returned last night, but as yet I have no papers on either side. Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud denies positively having received any particulars from Lahore, such as the Durbar intimated having sent him. Every day numberless small causes are brought for my decision, but the non-appearance of the Kardars (excepting the one destined for Khaunpoor) renders it difficult to settle anything.

27th July.—Bahadoor Khaun, Gukka, has commenced plundering in Furwala. This man was offered by the Jumboo Government a jaghir of 500 rupees, but refused it and has returned to his old habits, so that he deserves no mercy. No troops have arrived at Khowta, nor can I learn of any destined for that post. I have therefore begged Lieutenant Nicholson to order the Rawul Pindi Regiment thither and send with it 200 sipahis and a Thannadar for the garrison. This step has become the more necessary that the zumeendars were beginning to rise against the thannas of the Jumboo Government. But the regiment from Rawul Pindi can ill be spared from that neighbourhood just now. The Kardar of the place, Bhaee Dil Singh, writes that Bahadoor Khaun had planned a *chuppao* to seize him, and that he, the Kardar, instead of meeting him manfully or manœuvring to catch

him, had run away in all haste. What can be hoped for a turbulent district the Kardar of which makes such confessions. Bhaee Mow Singh's statement on the Gundgurh case has just arrived. It is manifestly unfaithful, yet to my astonishment the Gundgurrias confess that they at present are in actual unmolested enjoyment of 7,100 rupees worth of jaghir. This is quite startling to me, who had supposed that 1,500 rupees was the extent of their possession.

They claim in Hurroh about 8,000 rupees more. It seems that there are about 150 Jaghirdars, who are prohibited by public opinion from any employment (theft excepted) by which bread can be earned. I offered them military service on favorable terms, but they decline it. Had I been aware of the extent of their possessions I should more strenuously have argued against any conciliatory settlement with them. But they declare that Mr. Vans Agnew promised them that the whole of their claim should be accorded, and although I believe this to be impossible, yet they certainly were encouraged in their hopes.

The strongest feature of their claim is that the right for which they contend is sanctioned by a Sunnud of the Maharaja Runjeet Singh and that the resumption is the work of a Kardar merely.

The coming in of Khaun-i-Zeman has caused great sensation; and a great shock to our credit will be felt if his claims are not allowed, for every one knows how much it has cost him, and his compliance is considered by himself and people as filling up his title. The case is most awkward. Injustice had been done long ago, but it was a species of injustice to individual right by which the public weal was advantaged: our means of compelling obedience were complete, and had the Gundgurrias not been meddled with until their excesses called for retribution, a clan of troublesome and useless Jaghirdars would have been compelled either to labor for their livelihood or to quit the country. But having once been encouraged to hope for the recovery of their forfeited right, it is impossible without much odium to refuse judgment, and if their title is valid for one village it is equally so for another and for all.

When the old man saw the effect which his acknowledgment produced upon me, he turned pale and all his attendants were deeply affected.

They are in fact in great distress from the law which, whilst it makes honest industry unlawful, renders the most liberal hospitality a sacred duty, and they had felt sure that when their Khaun took a step in their eyes so detrimental to his dignity everything must needs be conceded. I dismissed Khaun-i-Zeman with a handsome Khillut.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 16.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, from the 29th July to the 9th August 1847.

29th and 30th July 1847—Camp, Kote, Huzara.—I have written to Lieutenant Nicholson to beg him to move on one of his regiments to Huzroo, as it is impossible from Hussun Ubdal to make any sudden move upon Simulkund, the distance being between 20 and 30 miles. Accordingly, on the 31st he purposes moving to Huzroo with one corps and some cavalry.

Meanwhile, I have formally summoned the Chiefs of Simulkund, accused of the cruel murder at Bukka, without indeed any hope of their obeying the summons, and I have issued a proclamation to the zumeendars and others cautioning them not to aid or abet their Khauns upon peril of sharing in their punishment. This morning, I climbed the Gundgurh mountain with a few matchlockmen to ascertain the nature of the ascent and to what portion of the Gundgurh territory the footpath conducted. The ascent is most painful and the heat of the sun was intolerable: but there is nothing to prevent the ascent of troops at night. I purpose however attacking at a point further north and opposite Bukka, as that path leads, I am told, to the head of the mountain spur, beneath which Simulkund is situated. In the evening visited the detachment, Sikh Infantry, encamped here, and informed them of the provision made for them whilst under canvas and for their families after death, as well as the rewards purposed for merit, by the late orders. The Nazim does not acknowledge the receipt from the Durbar of this important order.

31st July—Kote.—Wrote Lieutenant Nicholson, in Political charge Sinde Sagar, desiring him to move by a night march from Huzroo

upon Simulkund on the night of Monday, the 2nd proximo, bringing up his reserve that afternoon to Huzroo, so that it might refresh and join in the attack next morning, and informing him of my purpose to pass the same night over the mountain ridge with about 350 bayonets, whilst Sirdar Jhundur Singh led a column of about 250 bayonets with *zumbooruks* and a brigade of Cavalry by the easier ascent of the Phuggoteh Durra (or ravine) upon the same point. I am not sure that I remembered in my past journal to note the despatch to Pukli, about the 20th instant, of Colonel Bhoop Singh's Regiment foot, with 2 troops Dragoons, 150 Irregular Horse, 35 *zumbooruks* and 3 field pieces, which had been previously delayed that it might join in the contemplated expedition, and which I deemed it imprudent longer to defer. There are left at Hurkishengurh 1 weak regiment Infantry, say 450 bayonets, about 3 troops Dragoons, about 200 Irregular Horse, and 9 guns field with about 40 *zumbooruks*; at Kote 3 companies Infantry or 200 bayonets; at Chumba 2 companies or 150 bayonets; at Khaunpoor 2 companies or 150 bayonets; at Bukka 2 Troops of Dragoons.

1st August 1847, Sunday.—I was occupied this day in the usual attention to urzees and claims and in maturing the expedition for to-morrow. To this moment, I have hinted to none but Lieutenant Nicholson the movements in prospect. But to-morrow it will be necessary to inform Khaun-i-Zeman lest he take the alarm. This renders very faint the chance of capturing the murderers, for however inclined just now to submission and co-operation he is too nearly related with the offenders to wish them taken, however glad he might be to get rid of them. Still I see not how the expedition can be deferred without risk of worse consequences. In October I shall have my hands full. Every day I am anticipating a summons to the northern purgunnahs, whither indeed I must speedily depart to settle disputes and introduce the Kardars to their new duties. I have sounded those capable of apprehending the Simulkund Chiefs, but have met with evident reluctance. If left at large, fresh murders will weaken the authority of the British name, and, as they cannot be included in the boon destined for the rest of the Tarkhailis (Gundgurrias), it seems necessary to dispose of their case at first whilst Khaun-i-Zeman is upon his good behaviour in the hope of our indulgence and before he has become careless by success

and the additional strength and influence which the enlargement of his revenue will afford him. But I have intimated to Lieutenant Nicholson that as I cannot possibly spare troops to occupy that part of the country, the expedition can be attempted only under the supposition that his troops can remain to see forts, etc., established.

2nd August 1847.—Kote, Huzara.—Early this morning wrote to Sirdar Jhundur Singh that, as he had expressed a wish to be my companion in arms, the time was now come and I begged him to move to-night at 9 o'clock on Simulkund, by the Phuggoteh Ravine; that I would be near to assist him in any difficulty. At noon I informed Khaun-i-Zeman's brother of the enterprise, and demanded the co-operation of Khaun-i-Zeman and his people to apprehend the murderers, all which was readily and cheerfully promised. I sent off early this morning Ushruff Khaun of Torbaila, with a purwana, to close the roads by the river Indus. I sent the Sirdar Jhundur Singh staunch guides who have a death feud with the Simulkundies, and ordered a chief of the Mushwanis also to join him as the road leads through some of their villages. This, however, by some neglect of the parties was not done, and in the evening, on discovering the error, I despatched the Mushwani Syud to Srikote to stop the road through his country. At noon I ordered the two companies at Chumba to be ready for service by the evening. At 1 P.M. Sirdar Chuttur Singh came to visit me, and spoke very gravely and anxiously of the enterprise. I comforted his heart and assured him that it was the interest of all parties not to oppose us; that even if refractory, I had not left them time to man their passes, and that once master of these the day was our own. He wished the column were 10,000 instead of 250 bayonets. I assured him that for the purpose in hand the 250 would suffice. The Kardar has at length arrived. I have expressed to him my extreme displeasure at his needless delay, by which the country has already suffered much. At 4 P.M. I despatched a purwana to Chumba to bring up from thence to Bukka the two companies on picquet duty, and another to Bukka to move one of the troops of horse from thence to Bukka. I also sent for Colonel Richpal Singh, and instructed him to have his three companies under arms at nightfall, and I ascertained that all were well supplied with ammunition, and one day's supplies. I gave

orders also to send on in our rear an abundance of all necessary food, as none is procurable at Simulkund.

The difficulty of communicating with Lieutenant Nicholson is great, as the distance between us is now some 36 miles with bad roads, and thus, until 4 P.M. to-day, I was not favored with Lieutenant Nicholson's memo. of proceedings. These, however, are satisfactory, though not quite in accordance with my plan. On the approach to Simulkund of Lieutenant Nicholson's force, I had intended that a detachment should diverge towards Ghazi to close the river escape; the rest to attack on reaching Simulkund, but that there should have been no halt at Ghazi. Lieutenant Nicholson, however, considers the halt at Ghazi expedient to arrange matters, and give orders that may insure success. At 6½ P.M., Sirdar Jhundur Singh sent to say that Colonel Dhara Singh of the regiment, a wing of which was to follow him, had just reported his regiment wholly destitute of flints and ammunition. The regiment has been a month in Huzara, and warned the whole time for immediate service. I sent him an order upon Colonel Jodh Singh, whose returns show 420 flints. The answer returned is that Colonel Jodh Singh declares he has not one. I therefore went over to Richpal Singh's regiment and procured and sent the Sirdar 300 flints : he had procured ammunition elsewhere. But several hours were lost in this arrangement, the Sirdar being at Hurkishengurh, 8 miles distant. I therefore could not start at 8 P.M. as I had purposed, lest I should be too far separated from the Sirdar. But at 10 A.M. I marched the three companies to Bukka, and there was joined by the other two. I then marched on by the Phuggoteh ravine, instead of climbing the path lower down, for I had discovered that during the whole distance there was no water, which with such a mountain to overcome was a serious matter. Just at starting a storm came on, and gave me some anxiety lest Lieutenant Nicholson should suppose I would not advance. It soon blew over, and I threaded the ravine without opposition, no one capable of resisting being in fact aware of our approach. About three hours of very severe climbing brought me to the summit. I led the advance guard myself, and gave the main column to Colonel Richpal Singh, for whom I halted, from time to time, until I saw him actually up to me. What, then, was my vexation on reaching the top of the pass to find that

I had with me only 100 bayonets, the remaining 250 having in some unaccountable manner got separated, although we had moonlight. I knew not what to do, for morning began to dawn. To defer was to render my co-operation with Lieutenant Nicholson impossible. To advance with such a handful of men was to risk too much, as, in the event of delay to his movements, I should have to attack perhaps double my numbers in a strong village, besides that the wanderers had probably gone the Srikote path, and might alarm that people and be cut off by them.

I was obliged therefore to wait, but it was broad daylight before my messengers brought back the wanderers. We now pushed on at my best speed; but I found it impossible to make the Sikh troops keep up with me. They scattered themselves over three miles of footpath, and when I shortened my pace, I could not keep them nearer. Thus, with infinite delay and vexation and an assurance either that the officers had no relish for the operations, or that the men could not be depended upon for any attack requiring celerity and order, I reached Simulkund, and perceived that the whole of the housetops were crowded with Sikh troops who had arrived nearly an hour before me, and found the place abandoned. It appears that, until late the preceding night or early that morning, there had been 150 matchlocks guarding the place, the women, cattle and property having long since been sent away. The Tarkhailis, followers of Khaun-i-Zeman, had in nowise aided to prevent the escape of the murderers, and seem now to take the whole matter very quietly. Lieutenant Nicholson has taken precautions to prevent injury to the dwellings, and I have exerted myself to prevent destruction to the crops. But to the latter, mischief must needs ensue as the zumeendars are not here to watch them.

I have also invited back the zumeendars upon assurance, and ordered the Tarkhailis and Mushwanis to search diligently for the fugitives. But there is a feeling of honor amongst this people, which will prevent their betrayal of them, even should they not aid them.

3rd and 4th August 1847.—There are still no tidings of the fugitives and it seems absolutely necessary to establish here a fort and garrison (for some time at least) to prevent their return. I have therefore sent in

all directions for workmen. It appears to me that, as the Srikote people (Mushwanis) were embroiled with Government almost exclusively for their giving refuge to culprits from Simulkund, the extinction of this nest of robbers will leave the Mushwanis good subjects, and perhaps prevent the necessity of rebuilding the expensive fort of Srikote. But Srikote itself would not be sufficient to suppress the Simulkundi habits of plunder, it being separated by seven or eight miles of the wildest ravines.

5th and 6th August 1847.—Lieutenant Nicholson expressing great anxiety to move in the direction of Hussun Ubdal, it is agreed that I remain here in charge of the place, a week if possible, although I am most reluctant to be separated from my district, and that he then return and relieve me. He leaves me two regiments of Infantry (very weak), one here and one at Ghazi, and takes away the Cavalry. Various reports of the fugitives are brought, but it is evident that no effective search is made by those who alone could have a chance of apprehending them. Wilder ravines and jungles can scarcely be imagined.

7th August.—Lieutenant Nicholson marched to-day to Goorgooshti. We have as a last resource taken a formal bond and oath from the Tarkhailis and Mushwanis not to harbour or aid the fugitives.

A report came this evening that they have crossed the Indus into the Eusofzye country high up at the Towi ghaut and are at Khubul on the opposite side.

8th August.—Seeing tents still at Ghazi, I concluded all was right and that Lieutenant Nicholson's order to the regiments to halt there had been obeyed. But to-day I am perplexed with tidings that the regiment marched back yesterday and that the tents belong to a corps here. This is most unfortunate as the Chuch bunnias no longer dare to bring us supplies from Chuch, and I cannot spare men from this place to guard the Ghazi road. I have written to Lieutenant Nicholson begging the regiment may be sent back, but the daks are uncertain. I shall therefore detach as many men as I can spare to keep open the Ghazi road.

9th August 1847.—I find that the regiment though not at Ghazi is within 12 miles of me at Goorgooshti, which Lieutenant Nicholson considers a better position. My detachment will therefore, I trust, suffice to guard the road. Busily engaged in collecting stones for the fort.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 17.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, Punjaub, in charge of Huzara, from the 13th to the 29th August 1847.

13th August 1847—Simulkund.—A letter from Lieutenant Nicholson states in reply to my communication regarding the removal of the corps at Ghazi, that it was done with my sanction. I have a faint recollection of having been consulted upon the subject, but had imagined that the post of transfer was to have been nearer to Ghazi and that the movement of the corps was in prospect, subject to a report to me from the Colonel Commanding. I, however, probably misunderstood the communication, for I could scarcely believe the report of its removal when first brought me and supposed that the Colonel had acted without instructions. I am quite certain that Lieutenant Nicholson acted in supposed conformity to my wishes, as he has always done, and my notice of the removal in my Journal was written under the impression that the regiment had been moved unknown to him, it being necessary to notice a fact of which the after-consequences might have been important. This day like others was spent in reading and answering urzees and hearing complaints. The walls of the fort are rising apace. Sirdar Jhundur Singh proposed that all the troops should help to carry up stones for the edifice, and this they are cheerfully doing.

14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th August—Simulkund.—Employed daily in receiving and answering urzees and petitions and in superintending the erection of the fort. Neither mortar nor clay being procurable here, the walls are formed, like those of other parts in these mountains, of large stones braced together by branches of trees imbedded in the layers.

20th August 1847—Simulkund.—Khaun-i-Zeman, the Tarkhaili Chief, has just sent to say that if I insist upon his restoring stolen property, wherever recognised, his honor will be forfeited; that I have granted him a certificate of remission of past crimes and that to make him restore property to the owners is a breach of this remission. I have replied that forgiveness of his crimes is widely different from the bestowal upon him of other's goods; that whenever any man sees his own property I cannot prevent him from taking it; that I have refused all cases in which the property was not actually forthcoming; but that the rule by which I listen to his claim upon property wrested from him in Hurroh obliges me to listen to the claims of those from whom he has wrested property. He states that, if it is my intention to carry out these views, he begs I will give him a boat and he will quit the country and retire beyond the river. I have begged he will do so, and assured him the country will be well rid of him. This, however, is only a threat. But it is probable that upon this point the measures for accommodating his claims will yet miscarry, for he seems to think that justice is a commodity made for the exclusive use and benefit of the Tarkhailis. I have carried through the cause upon which this representation was founded and seen the property (a horse) restored to the rightful owner. This is not the first time I have had occasion to lament that the claims of this people were ever meddled with, or that they received such encouragement to hope as rendered it impossible, consistently with our reputation for good faith, to reject their suit. Employed as on other days in building the fort and listening to petitions.

21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th August—Simulkund.—Employed as above. Lieutenant Nicholson relieved me to-day, 25th, and I purpose returning to my district to-morrow by the Torbaila route. The Simulkundi fugitives are still at Khubul, an independent village beyond the Indus. It would be easy to have the village *chuppaowed* by the enemies of that people, but I have refused this cruel and unjust method of procedure and must, I believe, patiently await until they are starved into surrender or in some other way fall into my hands. I hear that Lieutenant Lumsden is on his way hither from Peshawur to endeavour to apprehend them, but I have already been away from my district longer than I wished or intended.

26th August 1847—Ghazi.—Marched to Ghazi on the Indus. This is a most important post, and if it cannot be made a convenient cantonment must be occupied by a small fort. It keeps open the communication between Simulkund and Chuch and cuts off the retreat of robbers from Gundgurh towards Torbaila. The Chief (Muhmood Khaun), a Gundgurria, is also held in hand by a garrison here, and perhaps the most complete arrangement were to build here a fort and plant the Chuch cantonment at Nagharchi on the Indus, about eight miles below Ghazi, threatening Kutera and Khurbara and sustaining Simulkund and Ghazi. No control whatever can be held over the Gundgurrias whilst the Chuch force is located as at present at Hussun Ubdal. I may have expressed a different opinion before I became acquainted with the geography of this unexplored tract and found how impossible it is from Hussun Ubdal to molest the Gundgurrias.

27th August—Torbaila.—Marched to Torbaila in a heavy storm. The scenery is of great beauty and interest. The river, at least a mile in breadth, is walled on either side by mountains. But the road is open to beasts of burden, although for about a mile and a half the heights must be crowned during any military expedition. Khubul, the retreat of the Simulkundi fugitives, is opposite Torbaila and could be battered from this side by Artillery, unless I miscalculate the range, for the river grows narrower as we advance up the stream.

28th August—Hurripoor.—A heavy storm prevented my moving this morning. Meanwhile Mookurrub Khaun, Chief of Punj Tarr, an independent district, came over with 30 followers to pay his respects. Several of his horsemen are clad in chain armour with small caps of brass and steel, said to have been captured from the Sikhs during the wars between Sirdar Hurri Singh and Paynda Khaun. Nuwab Khaun also of Shingari, whom hitherto owing to his treacherous and restless character I have prohibited returning from his exile into Huzara (the Kardars not being established in the district), has now returned with permission, the said objection no longer existing. He has committed no offence against the existing Government. At noon I rode to Hurkishengurh. Sirdar Chuttur Singh, with his usual politeness, called upon me. The crops are most luxuriant—cotton and maize and bajra.

29th August 1847—Kote.—Rode to Kote to arrange my marching establishment, etc., for a tour through the district. The expedition to Gundgurh, though failing, as was inevitable from circumstances, in one of its main objects, the apprehension of the murderers, has produced I think a beneficial effect, in showing the Hill Chiefs that the strongest of their mountain fortresses are nc protection for them from invasions. Jehandad Khaun (son of Paynda Khaun), whose ancestors have handed down to him an oath never to wait upon mortal Governor or Prince, is now all anxiety for permission to attend. All three of the Kurral Chiefs have sent brothers or sons to tender allegiance and invite me to take possession, and Syud Zeman Shah of Khagan begs permission to attend. Khaun-i-Zeman of Gundgurh had never attended upon any Governor or King, several of the former had gone to meet him in his mountains, and Mr. Vans Agnew himself was obliged to comply with this ceremony.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 18.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 1st to the 13th September 1847.

1st September—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Rode over from Kote. Jehandad Khaun has actually reported arrival at a village in this neighbourhood. I have appointed the morrow for his reception. Employed in receiving urzees and making the revenue settlement.

2nd September—Hurripoor.—Jehandad Khaun, Chief of Bhowgree and heir of the celebrated Paynda Khaun, a Chief who, from the resources of his little circle of mountains yielding a revenue of about 10,000 rupees yearly, contrived to keep the Sikhs under Sirdar Hurri Singh at sword point for about 20 years, and who, when the whole of his little territory aforesaid was covered with Sikh Forts and garrisons, reaped his revenue or great part of it in their despite—the son of this extraordinary man, who has always professed great reverence for the British, called upon me to-day and was received with honor. He has an hereditary oath to wait upon no Prince or Ruler, and he

strove hard to elude what I conceived essential for the dignity of the Government. I informed him plainly that, if he did not attend in person, his jaghirs would be confiscated; that his conduct during the late confusion had been so exemplary that I trusted he would not force me upon a line of policy so contrary to my inclination; but that I could not understand the anomaly of a Jaghirdar too proud to do fealty for his lands. On hearing of the Gundgurh expedition, he suddenly became as anxious, as previously he had been reluctant, to attend. He is a small, spare, and good looking man with a gentle voice and expression of countenance and a slight hesitation in his speech. Goolab Singh, son of Sirdar Chuttur Singh, whilst Governor of Huzara bestowed upon him lands contiguous to his own, to the amount 10,000 rupees. Part had been previously given him by other Governors, but none of the Sunnuds are legally authentic, wanting the confirmation of the Maharaja. The case has become a delicate one. There are numberless grants equally unauthentic, which if repealed would throw the whole country into confusion, for the authority to make these grants grew naturally out of the possession of the first Governor, Hurri Singh, of a right, generally acknowledged to be vested in Jaghirdars of the Punjaub, to give away portions of their jaghir. At the same time, the grant in the present case has tended to strengthen hands already too strong, and some of the villages along the Indus cannot conveniently be spared on account of their value in guarding the river passage. It is true that the cost of the garrisons necessary to retain possession is treble or quardruple the revenue they yield, and that a rupture with Jehandad Khaun would be a serious extra item of expense. Mookurrub Khaun, Chief of Punj Tarr beyond the Indus, joined my bridle as I rode in from Torbaila some day ago. He has amongst his guards three horsemen in shirts of mail, and steel or brass skullcaps, whose appearance is very picturesque. These suits of armour are, I believe, part of the booty won by him or his father in the war so long waged against Hurri Singh. Jehandad Khaun has many such, but has prudently forborne displaying them on the present occasion.

3rd, 4th, 5th September 1847—Hurripoor.—Busily engaged in the settlement of the revenue. I am distributing books, duly sealed and signed, to all the zumeendars and malgoozars, and receiving, examining,

registering and countersigning the grants, a tedious business, for the petty grants of land and coin are almost numberless. I have slightly reduced (*i.e.*, by 5 per cent) the whole assessment, as I am assured it is unduly heavy, and I have given assurance that nothing in the shape of *nuzzurana*, *russoom*, or any other name, shall be taken beyond the nominal assessment. It is possible that some villages may still be over-assessed. But in all cases where distress is exhibited I have given the malgoozar the choice of *kunkoot* (or assessment in kind) for three years.

6th September 1847—Hurripoor.—Jehandad Khaun was dismissed to-day with a handsome present. I told him that I feared I must retain the river villages given to him by Goolab Singh, as necessary to secure the river ferries. I dismissed also Mookurrub Khaun with a khillut suited to his rank. News has been received from Khowta that Raja Hyatoolla Khaun of that place, whose jaghir was seized by Maharaja Goolab Singh some years ago and who himself has been ever since a prisoner with the Maharaja, having been suddenly set at liberty, instead of being made over to the Lahore authorities, has collected the disaffected and set the Government at defiance. I have represented to the Jumboo Agent the impropriety of this procedure on the part of their Government. Have issued a purwana to Hyattoolla calling him to submit himself upon pain of being treated as a rebel and have instructed the Kardar to seize him or to slay him if he desists. But the timidity of the Sikh officers will probably prevent my orders being carried out, and I shall be obliged to go to Khowta myself as soon as I can settle the Kurral and Dhoond country. Employed as previously.

7th, 8th and 9th September—Hurripoor.—Hussan Ali Khan, Kurral, has at length, after trying every method to elude attendance in person, written to say he is on his way to wait upon me. The other Kurral Chiefs had previously submitted on hearing of the expedition against Gundgurh. The Syuds of Khagan, Zamin Shah and Futeh Ali Shah, came in some days ago. They have been in rebellion hitherto. Upon the whole, the Gundgurh expedition, the failing of one main point, *viz.*, the apprehension of the murderers, which circumstances had led me almost to despair of previously, has hitherto produced good fruits, for those mountains have never previously been assailed, I believe, by a force of less than 8 or 10,000 bayonets, and we had not in all more than 1,600 of all arms.

10th September 1847—Hurripoor.—Hussun Ali Khaun, Kurral, of Nara came in to-day. He is an exceedingly shy and timid character. His father was murdered by Futeh Ali Khaun, Kurral. The Kurrals and Dhoonds are accounted a treacherous race. The arrival of Hussun Ali Khaun, which I did not expect, has rendered it necessary to anticipate a military move upon Nara and Mukhole in the Kurral country, but it is difficult to collect a sufficient force just now, and I would not entangle a small detachment amongst those wild mountains. Dhara Singh's Corps is only 400 strong and a wing is engaged at Simulkund. I hope, however, to be able to collect about 1,000 bayonets in a few days, when I will start for Nara. Employed as on other days. The cry for blood is great; scarcely a man was sitting in my Kutcherry to-day, where some 60 or 70 were assembled, but had the blood of one or more victims on his hands, and the relatives of these coming in raised a general clamour for justice. It was difficult to put it down by referring to the late proclamations of amnesty and the terms of assurance upon which the Chiefs have surrendered themselves. And indeed it is a delicate question how to proceed in case of the sons and brothers of the murdered rendering themselves the justice denied them by the laws. Ata Ali Khaun, Gukka, has committed a fresh murder, but I trust we shall soon have such possession of the Kurral and Dhoond mountains as to render his retreat there impossible.

11th, 12th September—Hurripoor.—Engaged in the revenue settlement as on other days. 12th, the Eed of the Moosulmans.

13th September.—Engaged in the revenue settlement and answering the numberless urzees upon petty subjects which I cannot persuade the zumeendars to make to their own Kardars. I dare not leave these urzees unopened lest they contain by any accident matter of importance, but their reading is a serious task upon my time. Ordered Richpal Singh's Regiment and Colonel Ummir Singh with two guns to be ready to march to-morrow morning. I had yesterday withdrawn the detachments from Khaunpoor and Torbaila. Of the gun elephants five are inefficient from galled backs.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 19.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 18th September to the 3rd October 1847.

18th, 19th September 1847.—Sirdar Jhundur Singh having expressed his desire to assume charge of the detachment which I purposed marching to Nara to rebuild the mountain castle there, I consented to the arrangement, and he marched this day with 1,000 bayonets and 3 guns upon elephants, with about 20 *zumboorahs*. My object in altering my first intention is to render it more difficult for the Kurral Chiefs to practise treachery if so disposed, for had I marched to their country I must have taken them with me. They would not have felt safe here in my absence and whilst I was leading troops through their country, whereas under the present arrangement they remain here with me as hostages. The officer whom I sent to Mari with 200 matchlocks, to repair and garrison that castle, reports it in a very ruinous state. But the repairs are proceeding. As the people of the country destroyed these forts, I had purposed, on entering the country in force, to rebuild them at their expense; but as I have not yet a sufficient force to compel such obedience, the operations being hurried by the sudden submission of the Kurral Chiefs, I have ordered that the ryutts employed in the work shall receive rations but not pay as at Simulkund, where the work was new. Busily employed in the Revenue Settlement.

20th September.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement. The Dhoond zumeendars of Dunna came in to-day, and I purpose sending a party immediately to rebuild that mountain fort, retaining here as hostages half the zumeendars. The disposition of the remainder of the Dhoonds remains to be seen. They have not yet made their submission. Their country is a mass of lofty mountains covered with jungle and cannot be safely entered by small detachments, but the possession of Dunna is very important and will simplify operations should such prove necessary.

21st September.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement. The works of Simulkund proceed slowly. Clay and sand are brought from the distance of four miles and the water has to be raised about 200 feet.

22nd September.—Despatched an officer of Sikh Cavalry with 500 matchlocks to Dunna to rebuild there the ruined Hill Fort which was

rased to the earth by the zumeendars. I retain some of the zumeendars and onc of the influential Syuds as hostages.

23rd September 1847.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement.

24th September.—Employed as above. In the evening Lieutenant Reynell Taylor arrived from Cashmere on his way to Peshawur.

25th, 26th, 27th September.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement. The works of all the forts are proceeding without molestation from the hill tribes. Two of the Simulkund Chiefs, not I believe implicated in the late murders at Bukka, have surrendered themselves. The rest are in a state of partial blockade. The poor bunnia's son, who had been kidnapped by them, has been set free by the two Chiefs who have come in as a peace offering. This is a relief to my mind, for I felt my honor concerned in his liberation.

28th, 29th, 30th September.—Lieutenant Taylor has received instructions from Lahore which have determined him to return to the Jumboo frontier for the settlement of the hill tribe called Siddun, and he has written accordingly to Cashmere to have a force in readiness to back his mediation. Employed in the Revenue Settlement.

1st, 2nd and 3rd October.—Employed as above. All is proceeding prosperously. Published the abolition of the internal transit duties, which are a great relief to trade and to agriculture.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 20.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 4th to the 20th October 1847.

4th October.—Rode out to the village of Nara to see whether the people had obeyed my injunction to quit it and return to their several villages in the plain, they having taken refuge in Nara from the wholesale cruelty of Dewan Moolraj and the Lahore Government being sensitively averse from the re-occupation of a village which in the time of Sardar Hurri Singh cost them so much blood. I found that my orders

had been but imperfectly obeyed, the village being still occupied and but a few of the inhabitants having returned to the plain. I therefore remonstrated with the Chief, Mir Zeman Khaun, and assured him that if the people did not instantly comply with the order, I should resume the grant made them in consideration of their houses in the plain having been destroyed. Mir Zeman Khaun is himself building at Kullabutt. He assured me I should have no farther occasion to find fault.

The village is exceedingly strong against any imperfectly organized attack. It lies at the foot of a high, rocky hill, the spurs of which have some rude breastworks. On three sides a deep chasm separates it from the ground sloping down toward the plain, so that an immense body of fire can be poured upon an enemy approaching from that side, and the stones rolled down would be more effective than musketry. But it can be turned. Sardar Hurri Singh, at the head of a strong force, was several times repulsed here by the peasantry, about ten of the Sikh Sirdars were slain, and he narrowly escaped with life. There are hundreds of villages or posts of equal strength in Huzara; but it seldom happens that so large a body of peasantry is collected to defend them as were found at Nara, the people of Srikote and Torbaila being combined on that occasion with those of Kullabutt.

On my return, employed till evening as usual in the Revenue Settlement.

5th, 6th, 7th October.—Sirdar Jhundur Singh having reported the completion of the castle of Nara (a different place from the village just referred to), I have begged him to send a party to repair the walls of the small castle of Migra Numbi in the mountains of that neighbourhood The castle of Mari has been some time finished, and the Fort of Dunna is far advanced toward completion. The reservoir of the Simulkund castle still detains a larger force there than can well be spared. European superintendence being impossible, there is no avoiding such delay. Employed daily in the Revenue Settlement. I have remitted 15 per cent. of the village assessments in Nara, the scale being certainly at least that much too high. And I have promised the Kurral Chief, Hussun Ali Khaun, that so long as the revenue is regularly paid and irregularities are prevented, I shall leave him in possession of his ancestral residence at Mukole, otherwise the castle there will be rebuilt.

I have reinstated him also in his old jaghir, of which he was deprived. by Dewan Moolraj. The only value of the country of Nara is the power its possessor has of preventing raids and apprehending outlaws, otherwise the expenses are about three times the revenue.

8th, 9th, 10th October 1847.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement. I am not sure whether I noted on a previous date that two of the outlaws of Simulkund, being reduced to the greatest distress by the measures I have taken to annoy them at Khubul, had surrendered themselves to Lieutenant Nicholson and had been transferred by him to me. I have placed them under restraint until their case can be tried. I rather hope they are not concerned in the murders at Bukka. I have seized one of the two boats which were at Khubul and have closed the ferry there. Several skirmishes have taken place between the Khubulites and the guards at Torbaila, as the former have crossed over once or twice for the purpose of theft or annoyance. I have directed Fuzl Khaun, who has charge of the detachment, not to attack Khubul without support from Peshawur and not to molest the innocent inhabitants, but to confine his operations to the person and property of the influential zumeendars, the harbourers of the murderers.

11th, 12th, 13th, 14th 15th, 16th, 17th October.—Employed in the Revenue Settlement and in the investigation of a charge of murder, which I commenced previous to the arrival of the Sirdar. The circumstantial evidence is damning, but no direct evidence seems possible. The case is the deliberate murder of a sleeping comrade by two Rohilla soldiers. The Fort of Dunna is now built up and the reservoir is filled, and it only remains to plaster the exterior with mud. Two murderers apprehended by Jaafur Khaun of Goolreh, a reclaimed robber, whom I prevented from being ousted out of the jaghir granted him upon condition of reform, were brought in on the 11th and placed in custody. Some more petty thefts in this town have obliged me to change the Kotwal or rather to persuade the Sirdar to do so. The office, however, is kept in the same family, as the head of that family, Gholam Khaun, Tarin, has rendered the most essential service to the Government in conciliating and bringing in rebellious subjects. He is heir by right to all the country properly called Huzara, of which he was dispossessed by Hurri Singh. I have made up his jaghir from 4,000 to 5,000 rupees

as his expenses are very great and scarcely covered by even this allowance.

Lieutenant Taylor, having finally received instructions to hasten toward Peshawur, left me on the ———. He was detained by delay in procuring carriage. I borrowed with great difficulty from the Sirdar some idle camels belonging to Government to carry him on a few stages.

18th October 1847.—The two principal outlaws of Simulkund, Sirdar Khaun and ————gave themselves up to-day, being driven to the greatest straits at Khubul. This is something gained. But I would rather they had been apprehended. I have solemnly assured them that I can deal with them only through the sentence of the law : that I have no power to forgive the innocent blood shed at Bukka. And I have from the first empowered none to offer them any terms but those of a fair trial. I have lodged them in the Fort, and begged the Sirdar who resides there to act according to his judgment as regards their security and not to put irons upon them unless it seems absolutely necessary. Unfortunately there is no prison-house in the country. Employed as on other days in the Revenue Settlement and in visiting lands where failures in the harvest are reported. The season has not concluded so favorably as it promised. Many of the lands lying between two mountain ridges have been burnt up for want of the after rain. And I perceive that extensive tanks are much wanted in several parts of this valley, where irrigation in all cases and even the water necessary for existence in many cases is wanting. I believe the undertaking to be quite feasible, as the declivity of the valley is considerable. But the simplest process, that of damming up the courses of torrents, is for the most part impracticable here owing to the porosity of the beds of the torrents in which the stream disappears and again wells forth repeatedly in the course of a mile.

19th and 20th October.—Employed as above in Revenue Settlements and in visiting village estates, also in arranging the affairs of the Gundgurrias, for whom it is difficult to assign lands in lieu of their lost rights, owing to the multiplicity of claimants.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara.

No. 21.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 19th October to the 3rd November 1847.

19th, 20th October 1847.—The 19th being the Dussara, I received a visit of ceremony from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, Nazim, his son Aotar Singh and the Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud, accompanied by the officers, Civil and Military, remaining here. The Sirdar's *nuzzur* being passed round my head as *Sirwarna* could not be rejected, but the other *nuzzurs* I refused according to custom. In the afternoon I accompanied the Sirdar and Dewan to the spectacle which, owing to the smallness of the detachment left here, was not very imposing. On the 20th engaged as usual in the revenue collection. Upon overhauling the statements of actual collection in the time of Dewan Moolraj, and comparing them with older *puttas* in the possession of the zumeendars, two things become manifest. First, that an already heavy assessment was increased throughout Huzara, from 8 to 25 per cent., by an order from the Durbar in the years 1899 and 1901, to meet the increased expenses of the army.

Secondly, that in the *kunkoot* collections, which become inevitable from this and other oppressive acts, not above one-third of the Government assessment was actually realized.

I have therefore resolved upon acting upon Mr. John Lawrence, the Officiating Resident's suggestion, to modify into a lease the *kunkoot* of the deteriorated lands wherever the zumeendars prefer this arrangement.

21st, 22nd October.—Engaged in the Revenue Settlement and registry of grants of all kinds.

23rd, 24th October.—Engaged as above. I have also commenced the alteration of *kunkoot* for a moderate assessment, regulated according to the best of my knowledge of their present condition. This entails fresh work, but it will be more satisfactory than the *kunkoot*, which is a losing concern to both Government and ryutt, and would not have been contemplated but for the assurance given by the late Government of the district, under British sanction. I find in almost all cases the zumeendars prefer a moderate, fixed rent. The country requires careful nursing.

The whole of Huzara proper was plundered and burned by Dewan Moolraj, and about half the villages are still unroofed. This act was partly in revenge of the depredations of the mountain tribes, whom he had not the courage to attack and had partly, it would seem, in view the destruction of property which had lapsed, or was lapsing by treaty to the new State of Jumboo. It is, of course, impossible that the country should pay an average rent until the villages are again inhabited.

25th, 26th October 1847.—Employed in adjusting the revised leases of lands.

27th, 28th October.—Employed as above. Received a letter from Major Lawrence, in charge of Peshawur, in answer to some queries respecting the advisability of punishing the Khubbulutees and establishing posts on the western bank of the Indus under the mountain, Mahabunn. Major Lawrence's opinion is so decidedly opposed to this, or to molesting the people of that quarter from Peshawur, that, as I could not without great risk undertake an expedition at present across the Indus, and am reluctant to leave matters unsettled at Khubbul, I have intimated to the Khubbulutees that, on their chasing the outlaws of Simulkund out of their lands and giving me assurance that they will not again harbour such offenders, I will remove the blockade from their villages and admit them to mercy. I could have blown the village to pieces with Artillery from the hither bank, but much misery must have befallen the innocent from such a measure, which I would not resort to, until all others have been tried. Wrote to Colonel Baboo Pandah at Huzro directing him to meet me with his corps at Khaunpoor agreeably to advice from Lieutenant Nicholson. Wrote also to the corps which I had ordered from Khowta to Koori, ordering them up to Dunna to meet me there. I had warned the Colonel three weeks ago to exchange his camels for bullocks or mules on reaching Koori and to be ready to ascend the hills at a day's notice. Wrote to Sirdar Jhundur Singh, saying that since the troops suffered so much at Nara, he was at liberty to descend the mountain and camp at Rujjooia in readiness to advance if necessary by the Nara route to the Jelum. Inspected the platforms or tressels prepared for the guns to be mounted on elephants and gave other necessary orders for the collection of supplies at Dunna

29th and 30th October 1847.—Marched to Kote, and halted there to carry on the corrections of assessment and allow the corps time to advance.

31st October.—Marched to Khaunpoor. Employed in the revenue settlement as before.

1st November.—Purposed marching this morning, but Baboo Pandah's corps is arriving in so mutilated a condition that I shall be unable without fresh aid to form a corps sufficient for the enterprize in hand: a hundred men are absent on duty at Lahore. Four hundred and ninety remain, of whom 120 are reported inefficient from severe fever, and 150 convalescent. I have therefore been obliged to write to Colonel Boodh Singh in Chuch to bring up his corps with all speed.

2nd November—Bubootri.—Marched with about 280 men of Baboo Pandah's corps and 50 of Richpal Singh's; accompanied by two guns on elephants and 15 zumboors. The road ascends the bed of the torrent Hurroh, between abrupt and wild mountains. It admits of even camels under their burthens, but could not be prudently attempted, were the country in arms, by any small force, as it is everywhere commanded by the overhanging mountains, which must be carried at the bayonet's point before a force could advance. There is a higher road, but it is steep and difficult—still I should have followed it had not the Kurrals submitted. This torrent's bed, after an ascent of about 40 miles, leads to the foot of the mountain, upon which Dunna is situated. A letter to-day from the Colonel of the Regiment at Koori states that in obedience to my orders he has moved to the foot of the mountain, but finds it impracticable to his camels. I have written to reprimand him for neglecting to exchange, as ordered, his camels for bullocks; and to do so immediately, or carry up his baggage upon hired coolies. This neglect of Colonels of Regiments is death to any concert of operations. It is in vain to prepare beforehand orders to meet foreseen emergencies when certain that such will be neglected by the officers. These men show generally alacrity in the execution of anything to be performed under my eye; but if I am not present, are certain to neglect my orders. The fault lies rather with the system than with the individuals, and it will take time to introduce a better organization.

3rd November 1847—Mulli Shah.—Marched to Mulli Shah, about 8 miles, the road crossing and re-crossing the torrent, the bed of which is so smooth that the field guns might be drawn up it. The mountains wall it on either side, so that we have not seen the sun the last two days whilst marching. The cold is felt by the men who have to wade knee-deep through the water, some fifteen times daily. One of the gun elephants died to-day. It arrived at Hurripoor in an emaciated state, as did many others. I believe the cause is that the mahouts are prevented from plundering as heretofore, and will not pay for the food necessary for their charge. Grain is very dear,—24 seers of maize per rupee instead of 60 or 80 seers, the ordinary price,—and I will not suffer the standing crops to be cut for Government at the arbitrary price formerly imposed, but insist upon a valuation. As the zumeendars are anxious to pay this *fusl* in kind, I have suggested to the Nazim that the elephants be fed upon the crops thus procured and that the allowance for food be stopped from the mahouts until the elephants recover their condition. The Khubbul Mulliks having sent me a deputation of their brethren, to assure me that they have obeyed my orders and chased the Simulkundees out of their lands, and to implore forgiveness of the past, I have taken from them a formal bond, to the effect that they will never again harbour outlaws of this Government, and have promised that if the person whom I have sent to ascertain the truth of their operations shall find that they have really dismissed the Simulkundees, I will receive them to favor, remove the present blockade and release two of their party whom I seized more than a month ago. Under other circumstances I should have continued my blockade until I had forced them to surrender the Simulkundees; but as during my absence the blockade would certainly have been mismanaged, I am glad to arrange the matter as at present.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 22.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 4th to the 9th November 1847.

4th November 1847.—Marched to Sherpoor, about eight miles, still threading the bed of the torrent Hurroh, but the ground is now much

more open, the cliffs have disappeared and are succeeded by the summits of mountains not elevated above five hundred feet above the valley. The bed of this torrent is unusually free from boulders. The formation is blue mountain limestone, beautifully veined with white, susceptible of a high polish and easily worked. There is no limit to the size of masses procurable. It apparently contains no vestiges of organized life. Dunna is visible from hence upon the highest of the summits eastward—a bare long eminence overlooking a sea of mountains. Occupied in the revised settlement.

The answer of Colonel Pertab Singh to my reprimand arrived, assuring me that he has not received previously any order to provide himself with carriage for the mountains. On referring to my purwana to him I find that he is right and I am wrong, my Moonshee having mistaken my instructions and the purwana read to me during the distractions of the kucherry not containing the order, which not only myself but the whole umla supposed to have been sent him. I have written accordingly, approving of the exertions he is making to comply with my instructions.

Several Dhoond zumeendars of the purgunnah Charrian came in this day. But the Dhoonds of Daiwul show no disposition to submit. I have therefore desired Sirdar Jhundur Singh to march toward Dunna, there to join or to support me as may be. This is the more necessary that I know not whether the regiment of Colonel Boodh Singh may be provided with mountain carriage in time, all my exertions having but very imperfectly supplied the trifling detachment which accompanies me.

5th November 1847—Dunna.—Marched hither about two miles and encamped at the foot of Dunna in a fine valley called Lora. I ascended at once to the fort of Dunna. It stands upon a very elevated ridge of limestone overlooking the whole country westward and southward, in the latter direction as far as Rohtass and the river Jelum. Its height above the sea's level by my thermometer is 6,564 feet, and it is about 1,900 feet higher than the elevated valley of Lora. It is accessible from Rawul Pindi as well as from Khaunpoor. Much importance is attached to this castle by the natives, who fancy themselves subdued the instant a position is taken by the Government upon commanding ground. It was, however, attacked during the late disturbances, being

in fact far from strong. It has two reservoirs of water and there is a spring within musket-shot, but the walls are low and ill-built of stone and clay. The castle of Mari lies nearly north of Dunna and is visible from it, commanding the next considerable mountain ridge. Mari is succeeded by Nara on the succeeding ridge, same direction, but is not visible. The interval between the castles, as the crow flies, is not more than five miles, but twelve miles by the road. The mountain ridges are nearly parallel and there is but a trifling difference in their respective elevation. The mountain of Dunna is very abrupt on the western face yet the ascents are easy and safe.

6th and 7th November 1847.—On Sirdar Jhundur Singh reporting, that he could not advance by the Dunna route upon the Jelum and upon my finding the chances of being able to make up a respectable and efficient force from the regiments of Chuch (*sic*), I wrote the Sirdar begging him to hasten to Dunna with his detachment of about 1,000 bayonets and two guns either by the Sutora or the Khaunpoor road, as he might deem advisable. In fact this is not a country into which small forces of any but the most efficient troops should enter, it being so easy for the people to cut off supplies and communications amongst lofty mountains covering a tract of sixty miles. The Sirdar prefers the Khaunpoor road.

Colonel Pertab Singh's regiment arrived on the 6th, but the baggage is only arriving and that slowly owing to want of carriage; the sipahis have behaved most admirably on this occasion, carrying up their baggage upon their heads. The regiment is tolerably strong, mustering about 560 bayonets, but I fear I shall be detained here longer than I anticipated, as the corps has arrived without carriage, and it is not easily procured. The supplies too are collected slowly and with difficulty.

Colonel Boodh Singh's corps, which is coming up, will not muster, I believe, above 300 bayonets, making with Colonel Baboo Pundah's regiment about one ordinary corps. I have sent to summon the Dhoonds of the Jelum some days ago. But no answer has been received, and it seems doubtful whether they will submit without force. I wished to have advanced into their country without halt, but the corps I am collecting are not sufficiently strong to warrant such a move, nor will their carriage be complete in less than two or three days. I have therefore resolved to await a junction with Sirdar Jhundur Singh's force and move with it in parallel columns, occupying the higher and the lower roads.

8th and 9th November 1847—Lora.—I am still halted, waiting the completion of carriage and arrival of Sirdar Jhundur Singh: although purwanas for supplies of attah were early sent to all the neighbouring Kardars, it arrives so slowly and in such small quantity as to give me uneasiness. It is absolutely necessary to have a considerable depôt at Dunna. No answer has arrived from the Dhoonds of the Jelum. I have intimated to them the painful necessity I shall be under to withdraw all interference on their behalf and to allow the Sikh army to burn and destroy if they continue in rebellion, and I have represented to them the misery they will thus entail upon their houseless families when the snow lies heavy on the ground. During my halt here I have carried on the amended settlement and settled claims of Dhurmurth and Inam.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 23.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 9th to the 19th November 1847.

9th November 1847.—Dunna.—I am unable as yet to proceed owing to want of hill carriage. Colonel Boodh Singh's corps arrived to-day and Sirdar Jhundur Singh's column is close at hand. The regiment musters only 330 bayonets, but it is considered a good corps. My emissaries are summoning the Dhoonds of Daiwul and Potah on the Jelum, but although report says they will come, I place little dependence upon it. The men are flushed with their triumph over the Jumboo troops, and it may be doubted whether they will be amenable to authority, until they have met with a reverse.

10th November.—Sirdar Jhundur Singh's column arrived to-day. He has about 1,100 muskets and matchlocks, 4 field guns on elephants and 25 zumboors; so that I have now at Dunna about 2,300 men at arms and 8 field guns with about 40 zumboors. Our carriage unfortunately is still imperfect, though the greatest efforts have been made in all quarters to complete it. Still I hope to march onward the day after to-morrow, giving Sirdar Jhundur Singh the lower and myself taking the higher road. Both roads meet at the second march; but both are pronounced very rugged.

11th November 1847.—I am not idle although halting. The zumeendars have followed me in numbers from Huzara, and I carry on daily the amended settlement.

12th November.—Have given orders for marching to-morrow morning.

13th November.—Last night certain information reached me that the zumeendars of Daiwul and Potah are within a march of my camp. I have therefore consented to defer my march to receive them, and this evening they have arrived.

14th November—Dunna.—Made the revenue settlement of the greater part of Daiwul and Potah and directed Sirdar Jhundur Singh to march with his column to Daiwul to re-build the fort there, whilst I detain with me the principal zumeendars. I have reduced the rents one-third. As this district was subject to Raja Goolab Singh as a jaghir, it is certain that the utmost possible revenue was gathered from it. I had, however, refused to make any promise of remission previous to the submission of the people, and to all their demands replied that I would answer when they appeared with joined hands before me.

15th November.—I wrote yesterday evening to Lieutenant Nicholson in charge of Sind Sagur, accepting his offer of the Infantry corps remaining in Chuch, which I have begged him to provide with hill carriage and to station at Khaunpoor as a reserve in case of hostilities, for although the Dhoonds have made their submission, they are reputed a slippery race, and when the snow falls they may yet be tempted to mischief, in which case without a reserve I should scarcely be able to maintain my communications and make sure of my supplies in so deep a tract of rugged mountains. I ordered Colonel Baboo Pandah to march his corps to Charrian to re-build the fort there, and as its destruction was accidental, the magazine having exploded, I have ordered that the zumeendars be paid regularly for the work, whereas at Dunna, Mari and Nara I obliged them to renew what they had destroyed, giving them only rations.

Mauzoolla Khaun, a notorious character, a man of extraordinary talent and great duplicity, was entrusted by me with a small party of *piahdas* for the apprehension of Bhadoor Ali, a Gukka freebooter. By a forced march he surprised some of his party at Kurrore and offered to re-build that castle. I gave him permission, but as I find that the people are afraid of him, having formerly been oppressed when he was their

Kardar, I have ordered the Kardar of Karoo Khowta to march his regiment to Kurrore and carry on the building. Kurrore is a most important link in the chain of forts.

Sirdar Jhundur Singh's column marched this morning for Danaul, and I ascended the mountain of Danaul to be ready to support him, if necessary, with the right column, which is now about 900 bayonets strong.

16th November 1847—Dunna.—Walked out the first eight miles of the onward road to explore, as native accounts cannot be at all relied upon. Saw Sirdar Jhundur Singh's camp move from the first halting ground and pitch at the second, about 1½ miles ahead, in a most absurd position, where ten matchlocks might destroy his whole force; this too in spite of the most urgent caution on my part never to camp under heights which he cannot occupy. It is impossible to help it now, for were I to write the letter would reach him too late in the evening for a removal. Employed in revenue settlement of hill villages as the zumeendars come in.

17th November.—Sirdar Jhundur Singh explains by letter his short march, stating that in consequence of the ruggedness of the road he was obliged to wait for baggage. This he should have done at his first camp, which I had selected for him as defensible ground, instead of creeping on a mile and a half to an unmilitary and untenable position.

The people, I believe, are well inclined at present, but in such mountains as these no precaution should be neglected. Employed as before.

18th and 19th November—Dunna.—I have set workmen upon all the roads or rather footpaths, to smoothen and widen them as much as time will allow. Employed as above The Charrian fort is commenced. The walls of Kurrore I see with my telescope are about breast high, and Sirdar Jhundur Singh will be at Baicoud to-morrow.

I cannot close this journal without remarking upon the excellent conduct of the Sikh troops of the force acting under me. Colonel Pertab Singh's regiment reached the foot of the mountains with only 11 mules. Without hesitation the sipahis carried up upon their heads their own baggage, leaving behind much that was necessary for comfort in this lofty bleak region, in order to be punctual to the day I had appointed

for their arrival at Dunna. Colonel Boodh Singh's corps followed their soldierly example under circumstances nearly similar, and at Simulkund, the Futteh Pultun, Colonel Richpal Singh's corps and some troops of Colonel ——— Singh's Regiment cheerfully carried up the steep hill, from the ravines below, the stones necessary for the construction of the new fort there, a severe daily labour which lasted six weeks during the height of the rainy season, and so far from shrinking from the task as derogatory it was a point of emulation, which should carry up, upon his head, the heaviest burthen. Yet these are the same men who a few months ago were tying up their Commanding Officers in sacks and belabouring them with cudgels. Their conduct has been most exemplary on the line of march. But a single instance of plunder has come to my notice, although I take pains to obtain information, and the people who once dreaded their appearance as much as they dreaded an army of locusts now regard them with indifference, or perhaps rejoice at the market for their produce which their presence occasions.

I wish I could equally convey the impression I have received of the benefit already produced in the Punjaub by the presence of British functionaries; my opportunities of observation have been wide, and I believe that throughout the Punjaub the reverence for the British name is as great as in any part of our own Indian dominions. And now that the assessments are to be moderated, that the ryutt has an appeal against the tyranny of the Mullick and the Mullick against the grosser tyranny and extortion of the Kardar, the blessing conferred upon the nation will be solid and substantial.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 24.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Hazara, from the 20th to the 26th November 1847.

20th November 1847—Dunna.—The onward road is now ready for about eight miles, and I purpose taking up a camp at that distance in advance to complete the communications. The elephants being ordered

up the mountain accordingly, a male elephant, which was carrying its own fodder and two women, the wife and daughter of the mahout, having turned too sharp in the ascent, placed its hind foot upon the verge of the road, which giving way, the elephant was precipitated down the declivity and must have fallen 20 feet before he touched the earth, afterwards rolling about 150 feet, when the slope being less and some bushes in his path, he was arrested, but life was extinct ; one of the women was killed on the spot, the other is so bruised that there is little hope of recovery. Had the mahout been riding the elephant, this would not have happened, as the road was there amply wide and he would have guided the elephant to the right turning. I shall be obliged to leave one of my guns at Dunna in consequence. I have ordered the Thannadar to have the body of the elephant buried without delay. But there is so little soil that the matter is not easy. I sent men with hatchets and tulwars to dismember the body, but neither hatchet nor tulwar would make the slightest impression upon the skin.

21st November 1847.—Marched eight miles to Busra. The path is still rather difficult for elephants. The elephants which started soon after sunrise did not reach camp until night had set in ; and I perceive that for hill campaigns they are not quite the thing, as long marches or forced marches become impracticable, and where so much depends upon seizing the vantage ground celerity is of the utmost consequence. They are the only animals, however, capable of carrying the field guns of this force amongst mountains. The forts of Daiwul, Charrian and Kurrore are rapidly progressing.

22nd November.—Walked out the march in advance to explore the road and select ground for camp. The road lies over the ridge of a mountain richly wooded with cedars, firs and oaks. The hoar-frost is heavy every night. It is the proper military route to Daiwul as it preserves the high ground throughout and comes down upon that place which is situated upon one of its spurs near the Jelum.

23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th November.—I have halted here in preference to the camping ground in advance, because the latter is very much more elevated and of course much bleaker at this advanced season. Even here the sentries suffer something from the cold, as they are not furnished with woollen pantaloons. The forts are nearly finished, and I hope oon

to be able to withdraw the force to the Suttee mountains, of which one of the tribes is still in rebellion. Meanwhile I shall leave this force in position and move on myself to visit Daiwul and Potah. This ridge would form an excellent sanitarium. The scenery is very fine and almost any elevation can be commanded.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 25.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 27th November to the 4th December 1847.

27th November 1847.—I had intended to move on alone to Daiwul to inspect operations there and acquaint myself with the country, but on rising this morning found the country covered with snow to the depth of several inches ; and as the snow continued falling, and I learnt by enquiry that the spot I had selected for my camp as the lowest military position within miles was especially liable, from some peculiarity of the air tides, to be buried deep beneath the snow, and as the onward path lies over a very elevated ridge for about 12 miles, I took the first opportunity of a pause in the shower to shift the camp two miles back to a lower and more sheltered spot. Short as was the distance, the elephants moved so slowly amongst mountains that it was near midnight before I could again get under shelter, the snow continuing to fall heavily all night. However, I saw that none were left unsheltered and brought my guard whose pall had not arrived into my own tent.

28th November.—Morning broke under a heavy fall of snow which now lies six inches deep around our tent, yesterday's fall having melted and made the earth one wide swamp. I waited until a pause in the shower, then calling the Adjutants of the two corps and of the Artillery, ordered them to strike tents at once and march back to Dunna, as I am anxious to renew my direct communication with Sirdar Jhundur Singh at Daiwul and find that no one will even convey a letter by the forward route. Moreover our cattle exposed in the snow by night and without fodder all day would very soon be destroyed in this spot. The poor shivering natives with naked feet and half-naked bodies are quite

paralyzed, as they splash about ankle-deep in the mud of half-melted snow, and it is only by lending a hand myself to the operation of tent-striking that they can be encouraged to do anything. After packing my own tents I waded over to the two regiments, whose position was screened by the ground, and found to my extreme vexation all the tents still standing, the elephants not even brought to the guns and the Colonels basking over fires in their tents. It was now 1 o'clock, exactly two hours having elapsed since I issued the order, and as it would be impossible to reach Dunna before dark, when the path would become impracticable, I was obliged to reprimand the Colonels and countermand the march, ordering it instead for the ensuing morning.

29th November 1847.—Broke camp early this morning, snow having fallen all night, and marched back to Dunna, where another storm awaited us. The winter has set in 20 days earlier than it has been known during the last 18 years. I have multiplied my despatches to Sirdar Jhundur Singh that he may have more chance of receiving some one of them, directing him to retire as soon as he has completed and plenished the Fort of Daiwul. The road from Daiwul to Charrian is still open. There is a corps at the latter fort, and I shall make Colonel Pertab Singh's regiment march thither, at once putting both at the command of Sirdar Jhundur Singh should he require any reinforcement. The tower at Potah cannot I fear be built this year. It is not easy to conceive the difficulty which snow occasions amongst the mountains; our tents became quite unmanageable, saturated with melted snow and then frozen stiff. Many of them could not be carried by the mules owing to the excess of weight, and almost all the bullocks sat down with their burthen and refused to move. The latter are indeed of little use in the hills. The Sapper sipahis with me were helpless; being Hindoos they could not dress their food, and they would not exert themselves to procure wood or to bring up their pall which was lying a hundred yards off. The Sikh soldiers, on the other hand, had their tents up in a minute, and when the weight of the snow upon them drew the pegs and brought the tents down, the damage was instantly remedied. Under their tents they lighted fires and cooked their victuals in great content. I remarked this to an old Singh. He replied that he had been often before in the snow, and that the year in which Dunna was first built by Sirdar Hurree Singh, the same untimely winter had occurred,

but that then they were purchasing attah at 8 annas the seer, whereas now they got 20 seers for the rupee. The difficulty of provisioning a mountain campaign is great; but I had foreseen it and collected supplies from four different quarters. I could not, however, with all my exertion, procure a sufficiency of mountain carriage, and the men are burthened with more than a soldier should bear about him on the march.

30th November and 1st December 1847—Dunna.—Called for returns of property left behind by the several corps. Pertab Singh has left 15 sipahis' tents on the ground, beside other articles. Boodh Singh has left only two tents, yet the former had more carriage than the latter. This is most vexatious, as he never gave me a hint that he should be obliged to make such a sacrifice, and I must remain here a day to have the tents brought up. I have sent on Pertab Singh's corps on the road to Charrian and, as snow lies at Dunna, have sent the other corps and the Artillery lower down the hill, remaining here in a tower of the new fort, where I am obliged to burn lights all day and suspend an umbrella over head to keep off the melting snow.

2nd December—Gruhnim (sic).—Marched down the mountain to the village of Gruhnim, about six miles. Here news has reached me that the new walls of the Fort of Daiwul have fallen down under the snow and rain, and that Sirdar Jhundur Singh has left them in that condition and marched to Charrian. I earnestly hope this may be a mistake, as I know not how at this late date it will be possible to repair the mischief. I have written to the Sirdar, reminding him that he was to quit Daiwul only when all there was finished, and asking what arrangement he has made for repairing the mischief; he had my strong injunction to write to me daily and a dak has been standing for the purpose.

3rd December—Phoolgraon.—Marched to Phoolgraon, about nine miles. No news from the Sirdar, but report says he has left Daiwul.

4th December—Kuttar.—Marched hither and had scarcely arrived when the rain recommenced and has lasted until night. Another man from Daiwul confirms the evil news. But still no letter from the Sirdar.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 26.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 5th to the 29th December 1847.

5th December 1847—Charrian.—Marched under rain to Charrian, but as my baggage could not reach this place to-day I have left it about four miles off, and am putting up in the house of a villager, which I reached at night.

6th December.—The castle here is finished, but the late untimely and very heavy fall of snow has brought down some portions of the bastions and greatly injured the work generally.

7th December.—A letter from Sirdar Jhundur Singh informs me that he is bringing with him the Daiwul zumeendars. It is too true that all the bastions of the forts there have fallen down, the superstructure having been erected whilst the foundation was still moist and the frost having in consequence sapped the cement of the walls.

8th December.—Sirdar Jhundur Singh arrived to-day with his column. It is quite necessary that the Daiwul castle be repaired, as otherwise another field force will be necessary next April. I have therefore sent as many matchlockmen as can be accommodated at Daiwul and Potah with a Kardar to repair the damage, and have taken an assurance of good conduct under security from the zumeendars, some of whom I detain with me pending the repairs.

9th December—Burlah.—Marched to Burlah, leaving Sirdar Jhundur Singh to follow me.

10th December.—Marched to Kurrore, starting at daybreak and arriving at sunset.

11th, 12th, 13th, 14th December—Kurrore.—The fort here is finished. The position is most important; a high table-land, well cultivated, commanding the whole of the turbulent district in the amphitheatre of hills eastward of Rawul Pindi, and also the hill country of Nurraie. It seems to me the best position also for the Infantry corps on duty in Khowta, being centrical, commanding, salubrious, and having an abundant supply of wood and water. The mountaineers are like deer. They respect only those who have the command of ground, and it is singular how easily they are awed by a hand-

full of men in position above them. I am most anxious to open the road from hence to Nurraie and Khowta, which is at present scarcely practicable. I have therefore sent a party to work upon it, and shall wait to march by that route in order to be sure that my orders are carried out. Meanwhile I find that it is absolutely necessary to have a thannah, *i.e.*, garrison, at Kotli, where Maharaja Goolab Singh had a hill corps cantoned, as there is a tract of about 35 miles of wild mountains bordering the Jelum, which otherwise would be without police, the people being amenable only to force and having paid no revenue during the last three years. Much rain.

16th December 1847—Kurrore.—Went to inspect the progress of the road to Nurraie and found that in spite of the most explicit instructions they are carrying it by the most difficult instead of the easiest line, so that I shall be detained here yet a-while.

17th, 18th, 19th December—Kurrore.—Sent Sirdar Jhundur Singh back to Huzara with the Huzara troops, and wrote Sirdar Chuttur Singh recommending him now to take advantage of the leave of absence granted him by the Durbar to repair his health, which is much shattered.

Ordered Colonel Uttur Singh's regiment to march to Kotli and remain there whilst the castle is built, and Colonel Pertab Singh's to canton themselves temporarily at Kurrore in readiness to aid Uttur Singh, if requisite. I have been daily occupied whilst here in the revenue settlement of the Suttees and of the *mooskukhsa* villages at the skirt of the mountains. I march to-morrow to Nurraie if the weather, which threatens, does not produce rain or snow.

20th, 21st December—Nurraie.—Marched two stages by the road just opened to Nurraie, a singularly picturesque valley walled in by sandstone rocks and mountains of the same formation. The castle stands in a most happy position upon the crest of a rock so steep that 20 men were found sufficient to defend it against the turbulent and armed population of the district.

When Maharaja Goolab Singh's Kardar, Dewan Hurree Chund, heard of the exchange which had been effected of Huzara for land eastward of the Jelum, he dared no longer remain in a country where he is so execrated, but evacuated the castle, which the people immediately dismantled. I had not been aware of this previously, and had

hoped to be able to abolish this castle, but upon mature consideration the castle seems quite essential to the maintenance of order, and as it requires so small a garrison and as the Nurraie zumeendars were bound by me by solemn covenant to submit to it, I think it would be a bad precedent to suffer their breach of faith to carry the day. I have therefore given orders to repair it. Nurraie is about 12 miles by footpath from Kurrore and about the same distance from Khowta. I here enquired into the particulars of the death of Nusroo Khaun, Suttee, which I could not comprehend last year from not having visited the spot. He was in attendance upon Dewan Hurree Chund, Kardar of Khowta, and deputed by him to bring his rebellious fellow-subjects to reason. Hurree Chund's army had previously entered Nurraie, had seized the castle by night and were in force in the village, which belongs to Nusroo Khaun. Nusroo Khaun had just passed this valley on his embassy to the insurgent army of the Suttees, which lay on the Nurr mountain at the distance of a mile, when he was shot from his own village by three bullets which the Suttees declared were fired by the express order of the Jumboo Officer Commanding the troops there, in perfect knowledge that his victim was Nusroo Khaun. Dewan Hurree Chund's advocates declare that he was shot from the fort by his own people when summoning them to surrender, but as the fort was at that time garrisoned by Jumboo troops, this tale is inconsistent with facts. Moreover, the house of Nusroo Khaun was after his slaughter burnt down and plundered. I saw its ruins, so that it is almost certain that his death is truly reported by the Suttees as a treacherous murder. The Dewan, however, never ventured beyond the walls of Khowta, so that he may not have commanded the deed which the Suttees so confidently attribute to him. The burning of the Nurraie villages seems to have been dictated by revenge, the hill people having the year previously burnt Khowta. It is difficult at this time to form a judgment as to the necessity of this deed. In so strong a country occupied by an armed and turbulent people who are never tangible except when they have the vantage ground, and who have such numberless strongholds and places of refuge, this deplorable severity may sometimes be necessary to compel obedience. Without the establishment of defensible thannahs, it must be constantly necessary, for when an army advances, the people retreat to their fortresses, leaving only

their houses in the power of the invaders. But so far as I can learn of the case before me, a little temperance and judgment would have restored order without any such infliction or its consequences, the bitter undying hatred of the sufferers.

22nd December 1847—Nurraie.—I was prevented marching to-day in consequence of the road not being ready, and I took advantage of the halt to climb the Nitu ridge of Nurr, elevated about 6,000 feet above the sea, in order to complete my rough sketch of the features of the country. It is a singular mass of sandstone, which has never felt the action of fires. The summit is a bare table of rock several square miles in area, descending by precipice and ledge to the south. The rocky summit has the sea brown hue peculiar to the rocks and its miserable burnt up herbage, but the lower ledges have soil and are well cultivated. The whole is sprinkled with habitations, which, however, are left for lower sites, whilst snow covers the summit. This Nitu ridge runs west by south from the Jelum, and as it decays in height becomes thickly wooded with the Nitu pine. The lands of the Nurr people, who are a branch of the Suttee tribe, lie to the south of the Nitu. The northern valleys and the western portion of the ridge belong to Nurraie. The Jelum sweeps sharp round the eastern foot of this mountain. I have ordered the tower or thannah at Sooah to be repaired, as during its ruin the people pay no tribute. It lies at the southern foot of the mountain.

23rd, 24th, 25th December—Khowta.—Marched to Khowta by the path just opened. Khowta has a small fort and its position, opposite a pass in the Sutti Nitus (*sic*) and in the centre of Kurro Khowta is good. Halted here for the revenue settlement of Kurro Khowta and for Christmas-day. Lieutenant Nicholson rode in to dine with me.

26th, 27th December—Kullur.—Marched to Kullur, starting at 9 A.M. and arriving at 4 P.M. I am obliged to halt here to complete the boundary settlement of Khowta, as the whole of the 26th was consumed by the march. The road henceforth being open I shall be able to march at night, which is impossible amongst the mountains.

28th December—Kawzia.—Marched to Kawzia, and completed some items of settlement.

29th December.—Marched to Dummuk and dismissed the zumeendars who have been following me on business. In spite of repeated purwannahs I can get no authentic news from Daiwul and I cannot carry the zumeendars further with me.

News from Daiwul has just arrived. All is well. The fort nearly re-built, and the revenue coming in.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

Journals and Diaries of CAPTAIN J. ABBOTT, *1848.*

[*Note.*—Captain Abbott was Boundary Commissioner and on deputation to Huzara until the 9th March 1848. From the 23rd April 1848 he was designated Assistant to the Resident, on deputation to Huzara, and later in the year Assistant Resident, Huzara. From the 4th May 1848 " Diary" was substituted for " Journal. "]

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No. 1.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, in charge of Huzara, from the 29th December 1847 to the 22nd January 1848.

29th December 1847.—Marched from Kawzia to Dummuk in continuation of my progress toward Jumboo.

30th December.—Marched to Bukrala.

1st January 1848.—Marched to Rohtass.

2nd January.—Marched to Jelum.

3rd January.—Halted at Jelum to arrange the new boundary on the river of that name, but found the disputes so numerous and intricate that nothing could be made of them in one day. The islands also are in such number and their lands are so vehemently contested that a most particular survey of the river will be necessary. This was left by me for one of Lieutenant Robinson's assistants, Corporal Smith, last year, but by some error he commenced the survey higher up.

4th January.—Marched to Sookchynepoor and set afoot a survey of the river. Dressed the new boundary along the river Sookaytur.

5th, 6th and 7th January.—Halted here and went over the whole of the river islands, sketching in the ground from the elephant's back whilst the survey is proceeding. The contests of the zumeendars exceed anything I have previously witnessed. They color every thought, and shape every answer upon the most opposite subjects: appointed Moonsifs to settle the disputed points.

8th January.—Complaints are made of Mr. Leeson, a young man who is just appointed to assist in the survey of Huzara. The Bunnias state that he insists upon taking their goods at his own arbitrary price. He complained to me that he had difficulty in getting *begaries*. Supposing of course that he paid his coolies, I told him that a very stringent order had been issued against the employment of *begaries* and that the people probably did not understand that he wanted *muzdoors*; that if he would apply for them under the latter name, I doubted not he would be successful. I did not at the time know his name.

9th January.—Marched to Bullanichuk.

10th January.—Marched to Sumarala.

11th January 1848.—Marched to Rujooal.

12th January.—Marched to Kurrianwala.

13th January.—Halted at Kurrianwala and commenced the new *Todah bundi* which gives to Jumboo the northern moiety of Minawur.

14th January.—Marched to Minawur.

Marched to Nujwal on the Bijwat border.

15th and 16th January.—Halted at Nujwal to allow my Surveyor and *Todah bundi* establishment to make way. Endeavored to cut off the northern corner of Bijwat which runs far into the Jumboo frontier, but found that I could not do this without ruining the purgunnah by depriving it of its irrigation. The soil is light but good, and the crops have a never-failing and ample supply of water from the canals of the Chenab. The rental is 35,000 rupees, but Raja Tej Singh is not very unreasonable in estimating it at 50,000 rupees, for it is worth land of that assessment in unwatered soil.

17th and 18th January.—Marched to Poole on the Chenab, crossed the Chenab and marched to Kateli.

Marched to Goolbehar.

21st and 22nd January.—Halted at Goolbehar to survey two new lines of boundary in Soochaytgurh.

Marched to Sialkot.

During the whole of this interval I have been occupied in arranging, correcting and comparing the accounts of Huzara and of the boundary—a work of time and requiring unbroken attention. The new assessment of Huzara and the extensive grant by the Jumboo officers and by myself of jaghirs to outlawed chiefs on their return to allegiance, has so reduced the net revenue that the Jumboo share will not, I think, exceed 1,12,000 rupees, the half of 2,24,000 rupees, so that I shall have to take back part of the land made over last year by express order to Jumboo. It was impossible then to foresee this diminution, because the reduction of the assessments in the Lahore territory had not been announced. My Surveyor has not yet rejoined me from the Jelum, and the *Todah bundi* establishment is in the rear.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

P. S.—I should note the receipt to-day of the Resident's letter No. 32 accompanying charges preferred against Mr. Leeson of altering arbitrarily the bazar *nerricks* at Jelum, Hurripoor, etc., and of defrauding the coolies of the latter place of their hire. It will be seen by reference to date January 8th of this Journal that Mr. Leeson was informed by me that a stringent order prohibiting *begaries* was in operation. The alteration of a bazar *nerrick* without sufficient authority and for selfish purposes is as dishonest an act as refusal of hire to a coolie and complaints have been sent me from Huzara charging Mr. Leeson with the latter offence. This is the first occasion in which any complaint has reached me of the conduct of Europeans in the Punjaub, although the Sapper Sergeants have been constantly on detached duty, and I need not say that one British functionary, whose ideas of justice are lax, may most seriously injure the respect and reverence the people are prepared to render us.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 2.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 28th January to the 12th February 1848.

28th January 1848—Bijnora.—Marched from Sialkote to Bijnora after having set the Native Surveyor and *Todah bundi* Moonshee their work upon the boundary. Occupied in the accounts and in receiving the razeenamahs of zumeendars of the boundary villages.

29th and 30th January.—Detained by continued rain. Occupied as above.

31st January.—Marched to Jhund. Occupied as above.

1st and 2nd February.—Marched to Charwa, and detained one day by heavy rain. Employed as above, and in surveying the boundary pillars of masonry which have been set up here by the Lahore Government, although not so reported to me. I had given an order at the transfer of Huzara to arrest the progress of the boundary pillars westward of the Busuntur rivulet. The Kardar of this district says the pillars were constructed previous to the receipt of my prohibition, but this is scarcely possible as there are several hundred between the Busuntur

and Chenab, and I rather imagine the object was to prevent an alteration of frontier in this quarter, where it was known to be desired by the Jummoo Government.

3rd February 1847.—Marched to Buggiarie. Engaged as above.

4th, 5th and 6th February.—Marched to Nungah and halted to settle a formidable boundary dispute, which the Moonsifs could not arrange last year. So many arbitrary changes were made in villages hereabout, during the Vizarut of Raja Dhyan Singh, that the confusion is often inextricable. Occupied in this matter, with the accounts, and in receiving razeenamahs from the boundary zumeendars. Detained here on the 5th by heavy rain.

7th February.—Marched to Bheyroo Nath, surveying the boundary pillars on the way. Those only of Lahore are yet erected. Employed with the accounts and in receiving razeenamahs.

8th February.—Marched to Chuchwal, surveying the boundary pillars, an operation which keeps me in the saddle daily until 12 or 1 o'clock. Employed afterwards with the accounts, etc.

9th February.—Marched to Bekee-ke-chuk, surveying the boundary pillars. Employed afterwards as above.

10th February.—Marched to Musroor, surveying, etc., as above.

11th February.—Marched to Mooti ditto ditto.

12th February.—Marched to Purrole ditto ditto.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

P. S.—The boundary pillars of both Lahore and Jummoo are erected with a few exceptions eastward of the Busuntur. But although every one of the pillars of earth was inspected by me last year, and corrected where erroneous, at the cost of much care and exposure, there are several chasms in the permanent columns, and I have been obliged to fine several zumeendars for preventing their erection on lands of which the disputes have been formally settled by Moonsifs of their own nomination.

No. 3.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, on deputation to Huzara, from the 13th to the 22nd February 1848.

13th February 1848.—Ran up to Jesrota, as this may be my last opportunity of fixing the latitude. Got a meridian observation.

The palaces built by the young and gallant Raja Heera Singh, who in fact founded also the town, are since his death utterly neglected and will speedily fall to decay. His untimely fate seems to have attached a superstitious gloom to the spot. The palaces form an important feature in the country, being visible at the distance of many miles and are one of the stations of the trigonometrical survey by which the boundary has been regulated. I had not previously visited them.

14th February—Nurrote.—Returned to Nurrote, inspecting on the way about 12 miles of boundary pillars.

This forms the commencement of the *Todah bundi* of the boundary, and owing to the inexperience of all the establishment a large number of pillars of masonry are deficient, although I last year reported every one of the earthen pillars and rectified what I found amiss. It seems absolutely necessary that the whole of the boundary pillars should again be inspected very carefully, when reported complete, by a British Officer. No dependence whatever can be placed upon native supervision. Reached my camp after sunset.

15th February—Katooha.—Marched at daybreak to Katooha, inspecting the boundary pillars by the way. Those which are in the river channel I have ordered to be sunk 7 feet in the shingle, projecting only 3½ feet above. Reached camp at 2 P.M.; employed the rest of the day in plotting boundary surveys, receiving razeenamahs, etc.

16th February—Katooha.—Detained by very heavy rain. Engaged in plotting boundary surveys and with the accounts.

18th February—Madoopoor.—Returned from Katooha to the point at which the boundary meets the Ravi and marched up the Ravi to Madoopoor. The Ravi is here the boundary, and my object was to ascertain whether there is any confusion of claims to land affected by an alteration in the Ravi's course. Ordered the zumeendars on either hand to attend with their depositions; reached camp at 1 P.M.; employed

the rest of the day in taking razeenamahs, and with the accounts. Here commences the British and Lahore boundary, and the *Todah bundi* here is only just set up in earth, the boundary having been altered by the exchange to Jumboo of the British lands trans-Ravi, for the tribute of Chumba cis-Ravi.

19th February 1848—Shoojanpoor.—Marched to Shoojanpoor, surveying the boundary pillars which are very correctly set up in earth. All the canal villages including Shoojanpoor Khas remain with Lahore. Engaged the rest of the day in plotting the boundary survey and in receiving razeenamahs and adjusting claims to land on the river.

20th February.—Pathankote.—Marched to Pathankote, surveying on the way the rest of the boundary pillars to the river Chukki. Reached camp at 2½ P.M.; engaged the rest of the day with the accounts. Major Napier was kind enough to pay me a visit that we might consult upon matters connected with the survey operations in Huzara. As he states that funds for such purposes are rather scanty, I have offered to complete the survey of Huzara myself without interruption to my civil duties there, and without more aid than half of my present survey establishment.

I have already nearly all the materials for a map—every mountain first (*sic*), every large village and the course of nearly all the streams—and it remains only to sketch in a little more accurately the ravines and spurs of the mountains, which can be done only by descrying the highest summits. My duties lead me into every corner of the district. The survey of Huzara was announced to me as a thing determined upon, so that I did not like to say anything to discourage the undertaking, not knowing the reasons upon which it had been determined to undertake it, and not being aware that the finances were so cramped. I calculate that I can complete it in a year without interruption to my duties, the cost of the native establishment being about 100 rupees per mensem for 12 months.

20th February—Pathankote.—Halted to receive depositions of boundary zumeendars and to settle claims upon lands in the Ravi on either hand. They are not very important. Each zumeendar whose claim is established is furnished with a duplicate of the roobukari to that effect.

21st and 22nd February 1848.—Adeenanugur.—Marched to Adeenanugur, 16 miles, and halted to settle the claims upon lands in the river Chukki : otherwise occupied with accounts.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 4.—Journal of Captain J. Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, on deputation to Huzara, from the 23rd February to the 8th March 1848.

23rd February 1848.—Mukora.—Marched from Adeenanugur to Mukora. Occupied with the accounts, and in taking the razeenamahs of zumeendars upon the British and Lahore boundary, left arm of the Chukki river. A Seikh freebooter, named Hurri Singh, is said to be plundering the country near Adeenanugur. The news came from Lahore. No complaints have been made to me, although I must have passed very near the spot which he is said to infest. A party of 100 horse have been sent, says the same news, from Lahore to apprehend him. The intelligence has probably been known to Dewan Ajoodhia Pershaud several days, but was not communicated to me until my arrival here.

24th February—Soojoowal.—Marched to Soojoowal, crossing the Ravi. Occupied in plotting native surveys and in arranging the accounts.

25th and 26th February--Soojoowal.—Detained here by a torrent of rain which has deluged the country. Such a fall I have seldom known, excepting in the monsoon.

27th February.—Shukkurgurh.—Marched hither. The place is a large village with bazar. The mud fort, now in ruins, held out against Rajah Dhyan Singh, until that Chief seized the wives of many of the soldiers of its garrison, which was a good plea for surrender. It must have been a respectable little *gurhi*, having a deep ditch, and a double line of defences. Employed as on the former day.

28th February—Sumrala.—Marched hither, passing a smart little mud fort, called * * * * * * having a deep narrow ditch, and a parapetted *faussé-brayé*. It is however falling to decay.

Gumrola is a large village with a bazar. Employed in plotting maps and in arranging accounts.

29th February 1848—Charwa.—Marched hither, where I rejoin the boundary. Employed as yesterday, and in settling boundary disputes. Charwa is a large village with bazar and a single tower of mud, with double line of defences and a hedge of prickly pear. All these mud forts, or rather castles, have a natural glacis, being built upon the *tumuli* of old village sites.

1st March—Muhrajki.—Marched to Muhrajki, inspecting the boundary pillars on the way; reached my tent at 1½ P.M. Only half of the pillars, *viz.*, those which fall to the share of Lahore, are as yet set up. They are generally rather less solid than I had ordered they should be built, and in spite of the most particular instructions mud has been substituted for mortar in the foundation, so that their duration will often be brief unless they are yearly looked after. The further erection of the masonry pillars was prohibited last year, owing to the contemplated change in the boundary by the transfer of Huzara. This is a large village with bazar and a mud castle. The whole country from the Chukki to this place is one sheet of green corn. The soil is sandy, light and poor, but water is generally abundant. Employed the rest of the day with the accounts and in transacting current business.

2nd March—Bejoora.—Marched to Bejoora, a large village with castle of mud in a sea of rich cultivation, inspecting the boundary pillars by the way. These are newly erected by the *Todah bundi* establishment in my passage eastward. Engaged the rest of the day in settling disputes, receiving razeenamahs from boundary villages, etc.

3rd March.—Khoondunpoor.—Marched hither inspecting the new boundary pillars. Arrived at 11 A.M. Engaged the rest of the day in plotting boundary survey and in receiving razeenamahs. The fort and purgunnah of Runjeetgurh are at length surrendered to the Lahore authorities by those of Jummoo, and I have ordered the zumeendars to attend for the boundary settlement, Mr. John Lawrence's instructions having this day reached me. This is a small village with mud castle.

4th March—Runjeetgurh.—Deferred my march until afternoon to enable the *Todah bundi* establishment to get ahead of me. Then started and inspected their work. Employed before noon in plotting

the survey of the Jelum, for which previously I have had no leisure. Runjeetgurh is a village with a pretty castle generally of mud, but having two bastions of masonry. It is a place of no strength, but stands picturesquely upon the high bank of the basin of the Chenab, being nine miles from the stream of that river. It was founded by Runjeet Deo, a celebrated Raja of Jummoo.

5th and 6th March 1848—Runjeetgurh.—Halted for the boundary settlement of Soocheytgurh and Runjeetgurh, etc. The business is longer than I had anticipated, for I found the basis submitted to me as a guide unfairly taken, and as this district is subject to periodical visitations of locusts from the neighbouring hills, no settlement can be just which has not one or more of these seasons embraced in the calculation. As this purgunnah was liable to transfer to Jummoo in payment of Huzara, efforts had been made to raise its estimated rental. It requires a more intimate knowledge of the country than can be acquired in one or two seasons' experience, to balance between the rapacity of Kardars and Governors, and the effects of bribery upon Kardars, Moonshees and Sepahees. The former become manifest in the Khusrahs, but the latter are not the less certain that they are invisible. I speak of the *Kunkoot* system which has prevailed here. The *Mooshukhsa* settlement will be a real blessing to the country if conducted upon sound principles. But a just average is never obtainable in less than 9½ years' retrospection of jummas, and 19 years are necessary to give great accuracy. In fixing a *Mooshukhsa* upon the calculation of two years' produce, it is absolutely necessary to lean to the side of lenity, or the ruin of the zumeendars may be the consequence.

7th March—Chuprar.—Marched to Chuprar surveying the boundary pillars. Arrived at 10½ A.M. Engaged the rest of the day in completing the settlement of villages of which the zumeendars were not previously in attendance. A canal was formerly led from the river Toh to Wuzeerabad, so at least I am informed. The Toh is probably sinking its bed, and to reopen this canal would require some amount of excavation. I think that a grander work, *viz.*, the junction of the Toh with the Ravi, westward of Lahore, is quite feasible, leading it out eastward of the basin of the Chenab and keeping the high land, the slope being from N.-E. to S.-W. The head in this case must be in the

Jummoo territory which would benefit by the canal for about 15 miles. I doubt whether there be fall sufficient from the eastern limit of Chuprar to enable the canal to emerge from the basin of the Chenab until at least it should reach the longitude of Wuzeerabad. If therefore the canal head must needs be in the Lahore territory, it might better be led out of the Chenab near Chuprar, but not exactly in the sinus which the Chenab there forms, because the forward impetus cf the river is there sufficient to endanger a change of its course. A canal is much wanted in the arid but highly capable soil of this Dooab, of which large tracts on the road from Wuzeerabad to Lahore are so desolate as to be dreaded by travellers. Chuprar is a large village, with a very large bazar, standing in the rich basin of the Chenab. The soil is sandy, but the heavy dews render it productive.

8th March 1848—Thoob.—Marched hither inspecting the boundary pillars by the way, and crossing the river Toh by a ford and ferry. The bottom is often dangerous from quicksands. Here the Toh for a mile, and afterwards the Chenab, becomes the boundary of the two States—a boundary liable, I fear, to future disputes from the ever shifting nature of this river, which has nine or ten streams at its issue from the mountains. The inconvenience, however, is inevitable, and I have done my utmost to effect a more eligible line. Engaged the remainder of the day in boundary settlements and in the examination of accounts from Huzara. In continuation of my remarks under yesterday's date I learn that the canal above referred to was called Ali Murdan's, a name which it still retains; that the canal head is at Simbhul, about eight miles from mouth of the Toh in Jummoo territory; and that it was confined to the basins of the Toh and the Chenab. There is also a natural water-course of considerable breadth and depth called Ihk, rising at Buggulla Bohgna, not many miles from the Toh, and running past Sialkot to Bulluggun seven *coss* westward of that town where it ends in the earth. At the same place, *i.e.*, Bulluggun, where the Ihk terminates, two small streams rise from a tank; one runs to Wuzeerabad, the other courses south-westward by Sheikhoopoora into Burr. It strikes me that the Toh water might be led into the Ihk, and the Ihk be prolonged into the channel of this small stream. An immense deal of excavation would thus be saved.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 5.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 9th to the 20th March 1848.

9th March 1848.—Marched to Khana-ke-Chuk. Employed for the rest of the day with the accounts. The son and nephew of Raie Kesrie Singh, Vuzeer of Raja Dhyan Singh, called upon me, complaining that Maharaja Goolab Singh had resumed all their father's lands and left them only a miserable pittance quite unsuited to their rank. It is a pity that the Maharaja takes such measures to alienate from him the hearts of his most faithful followers. These are the sons of men who have served himself and family to purpose and whom he might have depended upon in any crisis. The father of Pritwee Singh was for one year Governor of Huzara, and gave satisfaction in that difficult position. Khana-ke Chuk is a village with large bazar on left bank of the Chenab, remarkable for the Hindu temple, over which presides the Gooroo of Maharaja Goolab Singh.

10th March—Nujwal.—Marched hither, following the boundary, and correcting errors in the *Todah bundi*: distance by boundary about 16 miles. In saddle from daybreak till 1½ P.M. The sun is becoming painfully hot. Engaged the remainder of the day in arranging the accounts, receiving razeenamahs, etc. Nujwal is a small village of Minawur.

11th March—Khunoo Bhow.—Marched by the boundary correcting the work. In saddle from daybreak till 1 P.M. Engaged the rest of the day in settling boundary disputes, receiving razeenamahs, etc.

12th March—Nidala.—Marched hither inspecting and correcting the boundary pillars, this being one of the portions altered by the transfer of Huzara. In saddle until 10½ A.M. Employed till night in the revenue settlement of Minawur. The work is perplexing on account of the limited number of seasons of which a record is obtainable, and the great price borne by grain during the last five years. The basis therefore offered me is false, and is to be modified by circumstances of which I have only a general and imperfect knowledge. I feel therefore far from satisfied with the settlements, and regret that greater leisure has not been allowed to collect data. The system here employed is *Kunkoot*, and the produce by this estimate is received partly at a price

arbitrarily imposed by the Government from 40 to 60 per cent. higher than the bazar price, partly in kind. Cotton and sugar lands are estimated by the area at a fixed valuation. Against this exaction of the Government is to be weighed the peculation of Kardars and Moonshees, and the effects of bribery upon the same. Still when the bazar price of grain is unusually high, as has been the case for some years throughout the Punjaub, the result forms a basis very disadvantageous to the zumeendar and ryutt, and the remission of 10 per cent. is quite insufficient to cover their loss by a fixed rent adjusted thereon. But to-night, after having made many settlements, with all these considerations in view, I learnt another secret which has caused me some uneasiness. It was brought to light by the evident alarm which the settlements, after a deduction of 17 per cent. upon this false basis, had inspired in those villages which depend solely upon the heavens for irrigation, the consequence of which was a closer investigation of circumstances. It appears that the estimate offered me is from the collections of Maharaja Goolab Singh, who had charge of Minawur for some years, and as that Prince levies the revenue very extensively in kind, he takes about 25 per cent. more than the computed half levied by the Seikh Government. When therefore the five-eighths levied by Jummoo are thrown into a cash estimate 50 per cent. higher than the bazar rate, the case of the ryutt is most forlorn. Some of the settlements just made must therefore, I fear, be modified.

13th March 1848—Muttanwala.—Marched inspecting and correcting the boundary pillars. In saddle from daybreak until 11 A.M. Engaged the rest of the day in forming estimates of the alterations necessary in the assessment from the information attainable. Rain at night.

14th March—Jullalpoor.—Marched to Jullalpoor *en route* for Goojrat to enable the Hindoos and Seikhs to pass their Holi at the latter city. Rain during day and very heavy rain at night. Baggage not up until dark.

15th March—Goojrat.—Marched in rain to Goojrat. Engaged the rest of the day with accounts and in settling boundary disputes.

16th, 17th and 18th March.—Halted at Goojrat. Commenced the revenue settlement of Kurriali, the zumeendars meeting me here. Jullalpoor is a small town celebrated for its sword blades. Goojrat is one of the best built towns in the Punjaub. It has a large bazar, and a castle of

brick, the latter in the midst of the town. The country is very highly cultivated, the soil light but favourable to wheat when rain is abundant. The Sirdar, Ram Singh, Udaluttee, called upon me with a *surwarna* of 51 rupees, the Naib offering 10.

19th March 1848.—Continued the revenue settlement of Kurriali.

20th March.—Closed the revenue settlement of Kurriali, and made a strenuous effort to obtain a settlement of accounts between the Lahore and Jummoo Moonshees. The unreadiness of the latter to produce authentic documents is a source of the most provoking delay. I have waited now about eight months for those of villages in this neighbourhood. Only copies of documents are furnished, and when these differ from the authentic documents produced by the Lahore Government, to the extent of 120 per cent., the Lahore authorities naturally object to receive them as valid. Large numbers of the zumeendars of Huzara have followed me out hither in spite of my remonstrances and assurances that I am returning to their district. I fear from their complaint that the Kardars are doing their best to disgust the people by their injustice and corruption, and this makes me doubly anxious to return to Huzara.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 6.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 29th March to the 5th April 1848.

29th March 1848—Pulwul.—Marched by the boundary inspecting the boundary pillars of last year. For though in haste to get back to Huzara, and although all this work was minutely inspected by myself last season, yet one monsoon has made alterations in work intended only for a few months' duration, and a few more hours of exposure daily are well bestowed in satisfying myself that all is right. I never go forth without finding sufficient to rectify, and have never repented of my precautions. In saddle from daybreak until 12 noon; the sun painfully hot. The hot winds set in several days ago. Yesterday observing two men limping along under a guard each with a log fastened to his leg, I instituted an enquiry and found them to be two of the

subjects of the Jumboo Government seized by Colonel Noorooddeen (of the Artillery, which has just left Jelum) upon suspicion of theft, one of his Golundauze having been robbed; a woman also was prisoner, as being the sister of a man suspected by the Colonel aforesaid, a Jumboo subject also: of course I released her instantly. The others I have made over to the Vuzeer of Jumboo begging him to produce them for trial should any evidence be found; at present there is none. One of the prisoners, it appears, last year produced stolen property and begged off the thieves; and upon this ground he is now in durance. I shall write to the Colonel upon the impropriety of his conduct.

30th March 1848—Sugi.—Marched hither inspecting the boundary pillars. Under canvas by 10 A.M.; employed the rest of the day receiving razeenamahs, investigating boundary disputes, which here are rife.

31st March—Gusseetpoor.—Marched to Gusseetpoor in order to cross the Jelum at the Pindi ferry. Employed the rest of day in plotting the surveys of the establishments, settling boundary disputes, and comparing accounts.

1st April—Pindi Ghaut.—Crossed at the Pindi ferry, and inspected the river with the map just completed, to make corrections. I purpose halting here, for I find that owing to the large number of cultivated islands it is impossible to form a boundary without pillars of masonry which generally I dispense with where a river forms the bound.

The Jelum, having three principal streams continually varying in relative depth and power, affords no clear terminal line. Engaged until evening in settling disputes, plotting surveys, etc.

2nd and 3rd April—Pindi Ghaut.—Halting whilst the *Todah bundi* is effected and the disputes are settled. Employed these two days in appointing Moonsifs, settling disputes which the Moonsifs could not or dared not decide, plotting surveys, etc.

4th April—Pindi Ghaut.—To-day a purwannah of the Durbar, countersigned by the Resident at Lahore, is exhibited directing Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud to call upon me to demand compensation to the Durbar for loss sustained in the transaction by which Lahore received the Talooqah of Rungpoor in exchange for Talooqahs Ulla, Charwa and Solukur. I have accordingly devoted much of the day to the investigation,

upon which I need only here remark that the bargain was made before I came upon this frontier; that it has repeatedly been quoted to me by the Lahore Agents as a case in which they were the losers, but which, of course, being a bargain could not now be litigated, and the estimates of value on both sides are always so utterly unworthy of trust that I could not form even an idea of the real revenue of the several Talooqahs without returning to the spot, which I have left 60 miles in my rear, a retrogression which would detain me two or three months longer from Huzara; that I have six times passed through the Talooqahs in the course of my duties accompanied by the Lahore Vuqueel, and to this moment no claim whatever has been made relating to them.

5th April 1848—Pindi Ghaut.—Went over this morning to one of the islands to settle a boundary dispute. On returning to the main land and remounting my horse the people thronged me so that the horse was excited and sprang back, throwing me forward upon his neck. My pistol fell from the belt and lighting upon a boulder went off and pierced the ankle of a youth of about 16, who was one of the crowd, and then lodged its bullet in the ankle of another bystander, a zumeendar. I could not at first imagine what had happened, having myself received a stunning blow from my horse's head. I then hoped no one had been struck, but after a little while the wounded lad began to cry, and the unfortunate accident became manifest. I had the parties conveyed to a village and saw the wounds attended to. No bone, I am thankful to say, is broken. But the circumstance has caused me great distress. I have been in the almost daily habit of handling fire-arms since the age of seven, yet never before met with an accident. And I had hoped that my care for other's safety would ever have saved me from so afflictive an occurrence.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Boundary Commissioner.

No. 7.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Boundary Commissioner, from the 6th to the 22nd April 1848.

6th April 1848.—Jelum.—Marched from Pindi to Jelum, ten miles Employed the rest of the day in winding up the various accounts, settling boundary disputes, etc.

7th April 1848—Jelum.—Halted at Jelum. Engaged with the accounts and in plotting surveys.

Pending an answer to my official report upon the claim of Lahore to compensation for loss in the exchange of Rungpoor, etc., which must determine my future movements, I have made arrangements to drop down the river to Pind Dadun Khan, to inspect the salt and antimony mines, with a view to acquire a knowledge of the phenomena under which minerals occur in this formation.

8th April—River Jelum.—Dropt down the river Jelum to Pind Dadun Khan in one of the large and solid flat-bottomed boats of this river, starting at 4 P.M. and arriving at 1 P.M. the ensuing day. The river is full of islands. For about 20 miles it occupies a highly cultivated and pleasant valley. Then the salt hills appear upon the west and a boundless flat to eastward. The people of the villages often ran to the bank and implored me to settle their boundary disputes, which of course was impossible. They have great confidence in the superior eloquence of the female tongue, and send their old dames and little girls chanting in chorus to attract my attention. It is difficult to resist such an appeal.

9th and 10th April.—Pind Dadun Khan consists of three small towns clustered together, the most considerable containing a very large and thriving bazar. The tomb of the founder is a small ruinous platform of stones under a large tree. Its celebrity is owing to the salt mines in its immediate neighbourhood. The salt lies strewed around in large masses of nearly 200 lbs. each, exactly resembling blocks of white and pink quartz. It is excavated from the mine at the rate of 20 maunds the rupee, transferred to the Pind on camels at a cost of about 1 anna per maund, and sold here to merchants at 2 rupees. From these mines and others under the same farm are yearly extracted 600,000 maunds of salt, or about 60,000,000 lbs. Of this one-third is sunk in Dhurmurth jaghirs, expenses of working, and loss from weather and larceny, leaving 400,000 maunds which at an average of 2¼ rupees per maund yield 9,00,000 rupees. The farmer gives 6 lacs of rupees to Government. This year he has lost something by the sale of salt, which had previously been laid up by the retail merchants. The salt is a remarkable deposit of solid crystal, in strata about 10 inches thick laid one above the other to the height of some 20 feet.

The strata have been set on edge by some convulsion, and are now nearly vertical. The entrance is an aperture in the sandstone formation, elevated some 250 feet above the basin of the Jelum. The passage is narrow and enters about 300 yards into the hill. No salt is visible until near the termination, which is a circular space of nearly 30 feet diameter, walled and roofed with rock salt. A deep pit is here worked. No attempt is made to secure the vault by pillars, nor by giving it a curvilinear face, and it will some day fall in. It is so ill-ventilated that respiration is painful to a person at rest. I pointed out to the Kardar that his people would do much more work if they had more air, and that a perforation upwards was necessary. But it would never be made willingly by any native.

The formation in which it occurs is very remarkable. It appears as if nature had made this the depositary of all the odds and ends of her workmanship: the red sandstone and its débris form the base, intermixt with crumbs of several kinds of limestone, flints, indurated iron clay, pieces of pudding stone, quartz and jasper; higher up, the limestone rocks, thickly studded with flints and agates, form cliffs and tables and rounded ridges sprinkled with thorny shrubs. The summit is an extensive table, hilly to the south, the long ridges of white limestone forming pleasant and highly cultivated valleys, well watered with springs and sometimes wooded.

The highest pinnacles are the Kurrungli and Domailia, if indeed the supereminent and solitary mountain Tillah belong not to the group. After leaving these hills the limestone terminates and the sandstone recommences, forming an undulating surface of rather poor soil, often broken by the most rugged and desolate ravines. It thus reaches the roots of the Serr ridge of Khaunpoor and falls from Rawul Pindi to the basin of the Indus. The Serr ridge is of blue limestone beautifully veined with white, occurring in the largest masses, and admirably adapted to pavements, slates, chimney pieces, etc.; beyond it again rises the sandstone, not red but white, showing nowhere the action of fire, yet, so far as I have seen, destitute of organic vestiges. It seems to have been formed by the adhesion of its particles under the simple pressure of its own gravity, and the solution by rain of the minutest quantities of silex and their subsequent deposit in the inter-

stices as the water has oozed through. The loftier pinnacles I have not yet visited; but I have reason to think that up to 10,000 feet they are sandstone.

The salt mines have been worked time out of mind, but I believe Lieutenant Daniel Robinson of Engineers was the first to bring to the notice of Government the existence of a coal mine in this neighborhood. It had been some time known to the natives, but fuel is there abundant and the coal is ill-adapted to their primitive cookery; so that it is quite disregarded by them. The coal, considering that only the superficial strata have yet been opened, offers very fair promise, and its proximity to the Jelum will render it a valuable mine.

11th April 1848.—Marched to Tehoah, a pretty, wooded valley under the Kurrungli mountain and upon the table-land. Long strings of pilgrims encumbered the road on their way to the sacred fountain of Kuttass, one of the Eyes of the World. Here, all who wash at the propitious hour are supposed to be cleansed of their sins and healed of their diseases, and the fallacy of the second clause in their faith does not seem to have suggested in the course of thousands of years any doubt of the double efficacy of so sovereign a remedy. The Khuttrees, who are in the Punjaub the mercantile class, are especially sedulous to blot out their yearly score of trespass. They are thronging in thousands—their wives and daughters unveiled, seated upon ponies and mules, and occasionally in *kujawahs* upon camels, and themselves leading on foot. It is a pleasure to meet so many smiling faces and an unexpected pleasure as regards the class of shop-keepers, whom I supposed incapable of content, but even they appreciate the protection afforded them, and I never saw more undoubted proofs of satisfaction. Several times, when people approached to make profound salaams, and I, supposing they had some petition, asked what they required, the answer was "Razi Sahib, bhote razi." Employed in plotting surveys and arranging papers.

12th April.—This being the second day of purification, I went to the Kuttass fountain, intending merely to sketch the scenery if interesting and to return. But the sight of so many thousands of people innocently happy was so fascinating that I could not quit the spot and was insensibly beguiled into a holiday. In a deep hollow formed by two

crags of limestone, the spring rises from a cleft in the rock which is of considerable depth ; the water fills a nearly circular basin of rock, about 60 feet in diameter, and then escapes down a dell richly wooded with mulberry, seesoo and palm trees. The pool is entirely walled in with large and substantial dwellings of modern date belonging to the Chiefs and Nobles of Lahore. Above them rises the most sacred of the edifices, also a modern building and with a Saracenic cupola, but of elegant proportions, and above that an antique obelisk attributed to the Pandoos, but evidently not many centuries in age, the Saracenic ornaments upon the body of the building, and the very perishable nature of the tufa with which it is constructed, contradicting the tradition. The building itself has been plastered recently and the summit is crowned with a very modern cupola, which, although out of keeping architecturally considered, is not discordant in effect. The stones of the subordinate buildings, which have not been plastered, have acquired deep furrows from the weather, which gives the idea of antiquity.

The whole of this picturesque retreat was crowded to profusion with natives in their holiday attire and holiday faces. For the first time in my life I saw whole families together,—father, mother, husband, wife and children,—all enjoying themselves together without constraint. The women unveiled and drest in their gayest attire,—crimson, blue, yellow and white,—with head ornaments of the purest gold, occasionally beaded with pearls and rubies. These ornaments are often elegant and always becoming to the native face. Few of them could have been worth less than £30 and many must have been worth £100. It is difficult to imagine the senseless shopkeeper, who sits in an Indian bazar weighing out ghee, the master of these gay and gilded butterflies. But it is pleasing to see the attention they receive from their masters, and the appearance of domestic happiness amongst them. In no instance did I see a woman or a child on foot whilst the male was mounted; and I observed husbands attending upon their wives and mothers by a most pleasing reversal of Indian etiquette. Every roof was covered with *ex tempore* tents and awnings. Every tree was crowded with gay figures reposing under its shade, and strings of men, women and children were passing along the narrow lanes and alleys, whilst the water itself was crowded with swimmers and dippers. In so crowded a space it is impossible for the fair bathers to escape all

intrusion of curious eyes, but the utmost that innate modesty can effect is attempted, and there is no voluntary exposure. The fuquirs approach them as they bathe and present their dishes for alms, and no woman resists the appeal. But I observed one, who could not otherwise get rid of an importunate beggar, toss the water of the pool into his face.

About 20,000 people were here collected. Thanks to the excellent arrangements of the officer in charge of the district, all was order and harmony; such an instance is scarcely on record, the rival sects of friars, Gosaiens and Sunyasees breaking one another's heads yearly for precedence in dipping. A single instance of theft occurred, a man in the dense crowd caught a little boy's earring, and cutting the ear with a small clasp knife carried off the prize, but he was caught with the booty upon him.

This fountain, says tradition, formerly poured forth poisonous waters, and all who drunk were destroyed. But Raja Judisthr and his four Pandoo brothers coming hither, purified it by prayer, and now it is only equalled in efficacy, moral and physical, by the fountain of Poosgurh, which is the other eye of Prithivi. However we may call in question these miraculous properties, we cannot deny that it is a fountain of pleasure to thousands yearly. The sight of their happy faces is a refreshment to the spirit which I shall bear with me for many days

—*April 1848—Tehoah.*—I this day climbed the Kurrungli mountain to inspect the stratum in which antimony is found. The height above the valley is I suppose about 1,000 feet, a limestone rock of sparkling texture and often of a reddish hue (owing I think to an intermixture of sand) is the matrix. It crowns the summit of the mountain, forming a precipice of considerable height. The miners roast the rock and toss water upon it whilst heated. It scales away in masses about two inches thick, exhibiting the antimony pure in cubic crystals, seldom larger than a finger nail. By the present process the profit is so inconsiderable that it is not taxed, but it might be worth while to test its value by working it scientifically for a couple of years. The largest masses seem to be found in the loose debris of the limestone. As a scientific geologist has just visited it, I shall not further describe it. It is my opinion, however, that this formation possesses mineral riches not yet developed; and any process for working the known mines will, I think, lead to more valuable discoveries. The name Kurrungli is Turkish, and almost

justifies the tradition that it was discovered by a fuquir from Cashmere, although we may not allow that he came thence by a subterranean route. Engaged the rest of the day in plotting surveys and adjusting papers.

—April 1848—Tehoah.—This day an answer came from the Residency which enables me to return at once to Huzara. I had ordered my march accordingly for the morrow, and went meanwhile to visit a site, from which dressed stones were said to be dug.

Having often been disappointed in such researches, I anticipated little from this. What then was my gratification to find that I had lighted upon the site of an Indo-Greek Temple to Jupiter Ammon, or to Alexander as his offspring. The proofs are beyond all question. I have carefully packed all the sculpture that I could in my hurried visit collect, and have sent it upon two camels to Lahore to be thence forwarded, if the Resident approves and with permission of the Durbar, to the Asiatic Society. Whilst engaged in this search, I heard that a temple of the same character was yet standing at the distance of 16 miles from Tehoah, and although anxious to hasten back to Huzara I thought I should be deemed blamable to pass it by. I therefore have put off my march for a couple of days. Employed the rest of the day in winding up accounts, signing and comparing documents.

16th April—Mullote, 15 miles.—Marched to Mullote by a westerly course, and found the temple sited upon an isolated table of limestone rock at the southern verge of the high plateau of Potowar. It is a most singular structure, in which the decaying genius of Greece has been fairly over-mastered by the barbarism of Scythia. The statues are all truncated, and otherwise so weather-worn that only general ideas can be formed of its intention. But what remains is full of interest, and suggests many and strange ideas. I made a sketch, so far as the glare of the sun and the high wind of the mountain would allow. But there are no loose relics that can be removed. The jumble together of fluted Grecian columns, with trefoil arches and Boodhist obelisks is most singular and disagreeable. No record remains of this edifice. It is attributed like all old buildings to the Pandoos. The hill has been fortified recently. It presents to the south sheer precipices of 200 feet which meet the roots of the table-land. The inhabitants have become Moosulmans.

17th April 1848—Tehoah, 15 miles.—I returned to Tehoah this morning, and employed the remainder of the day in comparing papers and passing accounts.

18th April—Tahlia, 9 miles.—Marched to Tahlia, a small village in the more open ground of the table-land. On the road, a singular ridge of sandstone is said by tradition to be a gigantic furrow ploughed up by Ram Chunder. Engaged the rest of the day as yesterday. Being about to separate from Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud and Vuzeer Roop Chund, there are many papers to be arranged and compared.

19th April—Chukkoowal, 13 miles.—Marched to Chukkoowal, a town of some consequence in this neighborhood. Engaged as on the two preceding days. Received the farewell visit of Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud, whom I have begged to return to Lahore, the field work in which his presence was necessary and the accounts being brought up. The boundary pillars are not all completed in masonry, but parties are employed in carrying on the operation, and the accounts are not actually closed owing to my uncertainty as to two items regarding which I have as yet no official answer; but it appears quite needless to expose him and the Vuzeer longer, on account of these matters, to the hot winds under canvas. I carry with me a Moonshee of either party to make the final arrangements.

20th April—Doodial, 11 miles.—Marched to Doodial and there received the farewell visit of Vuzeer Roop Chund. Employed in mapping.

21st April—Punjgraon, 10 miles.—Marched to Punjgraon, a small village as is Doodial. The plateau undulates : a soil poor but pretty well cultivated. The heavens here are not very bountiful of rain, and the crops are in many cases failures. Elsewhere they are the finest I have ever seen.

22nd April—Durgali, 11 miles.—Marched to Durgali, a small village in a ravine; country broken, crops generally failures. Engaged to-day with my own affairs.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Boundary Commissioner.

No. 8.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Assistant to the Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 23rd to the 29th April 1848.

23rd April 1848—Nihrali.—Marched to Nihrali. Engaged the rest of the day in mapping.

24th April—Moorut.—Marched to Moorut. Here I learned that the Pathans upon the Indus north-western frontier of Pukli were collecting armed men for the molestation of the Uggrore valley. I have therefore determined to ride in the remaining 50 miles dak to make arrangements for the discomfiture of this clan. Meanwhile as Jehandad Khan, the most considerable of the Huzara chiefs, is supposed to have excited this disturbance with a view of getting credit for good service in repelling the aggressors, I have written him a purwannah warning him that his jaghir is for the defence of that frontier, and that if he fails to secure it against attack his estates are liable to be attached. I have also written to other Jaghirdars of Pukli to the same purpose. But I have not thought it expedient to allow Colonel Bhoop Singh, Commanding the Pukli Frontier Force, to make any demonstration at present, because I doubt the disturbance being more than a petty quarrel between individuals, and a false step amongst those wild mountains might produce ill-consequences. I have written, however, to the chiefs of the Pathan clan warning them that if they molest without cause the people of Uggrore, they will probably subject themselves to the severest retaliation, the extinction of their independence and the establishment of garrisons in their land; but that if they have any ground of complaint I will hear it and adjust it equitably.

25th April—Kote.—Rode dak to Kot Nujeeboolla, about 42 miles, in a violent wind and drizzling shower; arrived at night.

26th April—Hurripoor.—Rode to Hurripoor. Received toward evening a visit from the two Sirdars. Just before their arrival the *Ukbar Nuweese* brought me some particulars of insurrection in Mooltan, in which it is stated that Mr. Vans Agnew had been wounded by a sipahi of the garrison of Mooltan on visiting that fortress and that the whole army was in mutiny. Whilst the Sirdars were with me a second budget arrived stating that the supplies around the British camp at Mooltan had been cut off and that the guns of the fortress had opened upon them. This man brought also purwannahs of the Durbar ordering the march

upon Mooltan of Colonel Bhoop Singh's and Colonel Dhara Singh's Regiment in Huzara, as well as of the guns of Colonel Nooroddeen and the horse of Sirdar Lal Singh, Kaliawala, at Hussun Ubdal. The Nazim and Naib-Nazim strongly remonstrated upon the danger of withdrawing at this moment Colonel Bhoop Singh's Regiment from Pukli, where it may possibly be actually engaged in hostilities, and I fully concur with them that such a retrograde movement at such a moment would raise the whole country, it being the season of collection when such disturbances are most probable. I have therefore ordered Colonel Pertab Singh's Corps, which is at Khowta and can better be spared, to march without delay upon Mooltan. It is a strong and effective regiment. Colonel Dhara Singh will march also as directed and the Dewan Dia Ram will accompany with 50 horse of Sirdar Chuttur Singh's contingent. The Artillery and horse at Hussun Ubdal will move as directed by the Durbar. As there is a violent superstitious prejudice against marching southwards on Friday, and as it seems advisable that they should commence the expedition in good heart and as their preparations will be more complete than they could be by starting to-morrow, I have at their earnest request consented to their remaining fast on the 27th and starting on the morning of the 28th. I have diligently enquired as to the several routes to Mooltan, and find that it is on all hands agreed that the route which holds throughout the Sinde Sagar Dooab is difficult to troops marching from dearth of supplies and of water. I have therefore directed them to take the route *viâ* Rawul Pindi and Pind Dadun Khan. This involves three crossings of rivers, but it seems to me, as to all whom I have consulted, the preferable route under circumstances. The troops will have orders to report progress to the Durbar on approaching every Dak station and whilst on a Dak road to report every three days.

27th April 1848—Hurripoor.—I have halted here to-day in the hope of receiving tidings from Lahore which may perhaps affect my movements, otherwise I should have proceeded on to Pukli without delay. Employed in making enquiries, issuing orders, etc., relative to the movement of troops and the settlement of the affair in Pukli.

28th April—Hurripoor.—Yesterday closed without a line from Lahore. Wrote the Sirdar Lal Singh, Mooraria, begging him to relieve Colonel Boodh Singh's company at Ghaybi with a Rissala of his horse; to the Kardar of Ghaybi directing him to send the said company to———

on the Indus to meet the regiment dropping down that river; to Colonel Baboo Pandah at Hussun Ubdal directing him to send a company of his regiment to Attock to relieve a company of Boodh Singh's there; to the Kardar Thannedar of Attock advising him of the arrangement and directing him to supply funds for the necessary expenses of the embarkation; to Colonel Boodh Singh advising him of these arrangements and recommending him to carry his camels in boats with him. This will require 10 or 12 boats, which are abundant at Attock. It will enable him to march at once on landing and prevent the risk of seizure of his carriage should the disturbance spread to that district. I have directed him if in time, to join the march of the Dera Ismail Khan force; if too late, to follow in their track. I wrote to Colonel Nooroøddeen, Commanding a battery of heavy brass guns, advising him of having suggested to the Durbar the embarkation of his battery at Jullalpoor, where boats will be in readiness, and informing him that if approved he would receive the Durbar's orders at Jullalpoor or at Pind Dadun Khan; to the Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud, at the town of Jelum, and to the Kardar, Pind Dadun Khan, begging them to have boats in readiness at Jullalpoor in case of this arrangement being adopted; to the Resident at Lahore informing him of these arrangements and of the saving in time which they were calculated to effect. The guns being of some weight may be useful in the event of a siege. The regiment of Dhara Singh marched this morning toward Mooltan *viâ* Rawul Pindi, Gori Gullah and Jullalpoor. This day's dak is in, but not a line for me. *Istahars* from the Durbar came yesterday and to-day. I consider it advisable not to leave the Fort of Attock without a slight admixture of Regular Troops, otherwise the company from Baboo Pandah's Regiment can be ill-spared. Ghaybi has lately been in a state of disorder. I shall, if possible, defer my departure from Hurripoor a day or two as it is the best spot for the transaction of important business. Yesterday's news from that quarter confirms my impression that it is a dispute susceptible of settlement by adjudication.

29th April 1848—Hurripoor.—The news from Pukli to-day makes me feel anxious to be near that frontier as I cannot here ascertain the state of affairs nor interfere for their arrangement. I have accordingly sent off my tent or rather have given all the orders for my march.

At noon the Sirdars called upon me. I had proffered them a visit, but they insisted upon coming to me. They had apparently received no fresh tidings.

At 2 P.M. I received the Resident's note of 26th instant, detailing the state of the commotions in Mooltan and referring to a former letter which has never come to hand, although the daks themselves do not appear to have been stopped. I would now willingly remain at Hurripoor, but having made my arrangements for march to counter-order them might occasion ill-surmises. I have begged Lieutenant Robinson to remain at Hurripoor until matters wear a more secure aspect, as I think that his and Mr. Ingram's wanderings with small guards amongst the mountains not advisable and in case of demand his services may be valuable. I post a dak of horses to enable me to return with speed should my presence be desirable. The Durbar's purwanas countermanding the march of Colonel Dhara Singh's and Colonel Bhoop Singh's Regiments and of Colonel Nooroodeen's heavy guns are duly received and put into force. The heavy guns I had thought could be useful at the siege, for in fact there are scarcely troops enough left at Hussun Ubdal to take care of two batteries, Colonel Ameer Chund's light battery being also there. Colonel Baboo Pandah's corps is the only regiment in Chuch Qatur. I do not however apprehend any serious commotion in that quarter.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident in Huzara.

No. 9.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Assistant to the Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 30th April 1848.

30th April 1848.—The Nazim and Naib-Nazim and Sirdars Chuttur Singh and Jhundur Singh came over to my dwelling (which is a bastion of the town of Hurripoor, they themselves inhabiting the citadel, Hurkishengurh). They brought the news-writer with the budget from Lahore, stating that in consequence of the murder of the two British Officers and of the defection of their guards, the field force sent to their rescue had been countermanded, and that it was proposed to the Resident by the Durbar that a light force from Huzara under Sirdar Jhundur Singh should scour the Doab of the Indus and Jelum, enforcing the collections and scattering insurgents. Upon this Sirdar Jhundur Singh proposed that he, the Nazim, and myself should make

over Huzara to the youth, Sirdar Aotar Singh, son of Sirdar Chuttur Singh, and proceed as suggested at the head of a thousand horse, a battery of light guns and half a regiment of Infantry. I could not agree with him as to the wisdom of my leaving Huzara at such a moment, for if anything can prevent rebellion here, it is the influence of a British Agent. But I think Sirdar Jhundur Singh himself might be thus employed with advantage. Sirdar Chuttur Singh's health will scarcely admit of such exposure at this season. They had not heard until this day the melancholy tidings which reached me yesterday. A letter from Major Lawrence at Peshawur reports all as yet quiet, and that the officers of the Sikh force felt confidence in their men. I have sent under cover to the Resident copies of Major Lawrence's letters to him, as a precaution, in case of the interception of the originals.

Last night, when about to start dak for Pukli, news arrived that the Pathans had been driven back. I have therefore recalled my tent and establishments and purpose remaining here at present for the transaction of business. The whole matter appears to me a plot of Jehandad Khan, Chief of Bhaingra, in order to enhance his value as a faithful servant of Government. I long refused to believe there was any inroad whatever, and it was only when repeated letters from Colonel Bhoop Singh, Commanding the Field Force in Pukli, announced the movement that I gave it serious attention. I wrote, however, to Jehandad Khan expressing my opinion that he had originated it, and I informed his Vaqueel that I gave no credit whatever to Jehandad's reports of numbers slain on either side, but would visit the scene and form a more perfect judgment. The dread of my doing so and of his consequent exposure seems to have recalled him to his senses. He is in tribulation at the want of formal sunnuds from the Lahore Government confirming his jaghirs, and is consequently anxious to gain a great name with the Government. His younger brother is in attendance upon me. The messenger I despatched to the frontier to gain intelligence has not returned. I do not know whether the Resident is aware that all the most secret orders and reports of the Durbar are sent open to the news-writer, who reads them himself or he hands them to the Nazim or to me. I need not pass any remark upon this arrangement.

A letter from Peshawur dated 29th April arrived to-day. The seal had been broken open. Another for Lieutenant D. Robinson from

Lieutenant Young at Amritsur had also been opened. All was then quiet in Peshawur. Sir Fredrick Currie's first note to me on the outbreak, dated 23rd April, came to hand this day. The bearer declared he had ridden with it from Pind Dadun Khan, and brought a note from the Sirdar there. As my daks had several days previously been arranged to pass by the direct route of Jelum and Rohtass, this has probably been intercepted here or at Jelum and sent back to Pind Dadun Khan. The confusion of the Dak Moonshee here, who is also news-writer, was so great when I insisted upon it that a letter of mine must have been intercepted, that he was probably privy to the arrangement. There was no appearance of its having been opened.

The Ukbar brought no intelligence of moment.

Closed at daybreak, May 2nd, 1848.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The dak here starts at 8 A.M. and generally arrives here at about noon.

No. 10.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Assistant to the Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 2nd May 1848.

2nd May 1848.—Despatched my diary of yesterday addressed to the Resident at Lahore.

Colonel Canara, Commanding a Horse Battery of which four guns are in Pukli, came with complaints against General Maimood Shah of Artillery. I have begged him for the present to avoid clashing with the General, and promised to consider his request to have his camp shifted to another quarter. He exhibited his purwanas which do not place him in words under the General's command. The strange suspicion of influence from the Valley of Roses in the present revolt of Mooltan, haunts this Colonel's mind, acquired probably from his perusal of Major G. Smyth's volume of which he has lent me a copy, the information in that volume having been gleaned from Colonel Gardner, his comrade and countryman.

The Nazim and Naib called upon me with the Durbar purwanas, directing Sirdar Jhundur Singh, the Naib, to proceed, with Colonel Dhara Singh's corps, Colonel Bhoop Singh's Regiment of Cavalry, and Colonel Ameer Chund's Field Battery to Mankera, to enforce collections,

and preserve tranquillity. Other purwanas direct that all the rest of the mounted troops in Huzara (50 horsemen excepted) be sent to join Raja Sher Singh with Colonel———field battery also here, supposing that they can be spared. I have with the Nazim's concurrence ordered all these troops to march as directed, excepting one Ressalla (Troop) of Regular Cavalry and 60 horse on the frontier at Pukli, which it seems imprudent to withdraw and 50 more Horse of the Nazim's own contingent. I deem it desirable that the Nazim should have around him at least 100 followers upon whom he can depend. In lieu of the troop of Regular Cavalry detained in Pukli, I have given Sirdar Jhundur Singh a company of Pertaub Singh's corps, and I have called in a troop of horse from Rawul Pindi to Huzara, the position of Colonel Pertaub Singh's corps on the mountains at Kurrore sufficing, it appears to me, to secure tranquillity at Rawul Pindi.

The disturbance in Mooltan is now the common topic of discussion amongst the troops and people here. A very general impression seems to prevail that the Dewan must have been tampering with the troops ere he ventured upon such atrocities.

The Nazim and Naib, however, think this improbable, no hint of it having ever reached them. A Sapper of Lieutenant Robinson's company having some words with a Sepahie of Colonel Pertaub Singh's corps, the latter said "in the month of *Jayt* nos vestros trucidabimus principes, vosque hac regione expellemus."

Lieutenant Robinson reported the matter to me, I being then at Puthankote. The impossibility of investigating the case at that distance prevented its being noticed further. I had no proof that the man had thus expressed himself, and had seen no symptoms elsewhere that could give importance to such an expression if uttered.

The troops thus ordered to march are expected to be at their several destinations in 20 days. This I fear will scarcely be practicable, as the artillery stores are not borne by camels but in carts; but the utmost expedition will be enjoined. I have written Sirdar Jhundur Singh an order upon the Treasury at Pind Dadun Khan for Rs. 20,000 to frank the current expenses of his armament and have desired him to apply to the Durbar for further advances should they be necessary. The pay of his troops will of course be provided for by the Durbar.

I have also directed that each Jaghirdar in Huzara furnish a small quota of men to accompany the Sirdar. These will be useful to him as soldiers and serve at the same time as hostages for the tranquillity of Huzara. I have no news to-day from Peshawur.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Closed morning of 3rd May. Sirdar Lall Singh, Kaliawala, writes to say that he has received a Durbar purwana remanding him to Hussun Ubdal with his 500 horse.

No. 11.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 3rd May 1848.

3rd May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—I have been enquiring about the fortress of Mooltan. All agree that it is a strong place. The strength, however, is rather apparent than actual, high and solid walls of masonry (brick). It is founded upon an elevated mound, the site of some ancient town or village. The walls are of solid earth, faced with brick and mortar. They require much battering, and it was not until the Bhungiwala *Tope*, a 64-pounder, arrived that Runjeet Singh effected a breach. The presence of this gun, which might drop down by water, would probably tend much to facilitate operations by the confidence it would inspire in the besiegers and the dismay it would strike in the garrison. For such walls as those of Mooltan the breaching bullet cannot be too large and 24-pounders were preferable to 18-pounders. The strongest feature of the place is the dearth of water around it. An extraordinary establishment of *pukkals* and *bheestees* will be required, and camel *pukkals* would be found economical. If, however, 50 or 60 small mortars and howitzers are available, the garrison may be shelled out in a day, and it is of such importance that the operations be rapidly closed, that I would venture to recommend some efforts in order to procure a sufficient number of this species of ordnance. The exceeding carelessness of natives with their ammunition greatly aids the effect of shells. But they should be thrown in an incessant shower, and for this purpose I should prefer small to large mortars.

The town is walled and will almost certainly resist. The two stand about 400 yards apart. Precautions are advisable on entering such a town owing to the well-known gallantry of the people.

Despatched my Journal of yesterday with my monthly papers. No news of importance has arrived nor has any letter from Lahore to-day come to hand. The Durbar's purwanas seem to arrive regularly.

Sirdar Lall Singh, Kaliawala, has received fresh instructions to march upon Chichee Wutnee, and made his first march to-day, coming here to call upon me *en route*. He has actually present 450 horsemen. My messenger from Pukli returned to-day. The dispute was between the Pathans trans-Indus and an independent clan called Daysie on this side. After some fighting and loss on either hand a Syud effected a reconciliation. There were no designs upon Uggrore, and Colonel Bhoop Singh, Commanding the Pukli Force, seems to have taken little pains to inform himself of particulars.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 12.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 4th May 1848.

4th May 1848—Huzara, Hurripoor.—No Ukba is in to-day from Lahore, nor any news from Peshawur. Sirdar Jhundur Singh is still detained for want of camels. I have given him those of Colonel Bhadoor Singh, but the latter being at Nowa Shihr and Pukli, they are not procurable on a moment's notice and have not yet arrived.

The Nazim and Naib called upon me towards evening: the latter to take leave. I have thought fit to add another company of Infantry to his force, owing to the weakness of Colonel Dhara Singh's corps. This company I have taken from Colonel Baboo Pandah's Regiment at Hussun Ubdal. His little brigade is still weak and, should the Mankera District be much disturbed, will require strengthening. He will be obliged to make a long detour by Julalpoor, there being no nearer route for guns. I have desired him to report daily to Lahore and every two or three days to me. His force is not calculated to carry the castles which abound in the Mankera District, yet as it is of the utmost consequence to get possession of these, I have permitted him (unless he receive counter-orders from the Durbar) to remit revenue to the amount of 25 per cent. to ryutts who surrender the country and the keys of their forts, and in other cases to remit as far as 10 or 15 per cent., and

to make good to the garrisons, on submission, their pay with suitable rewards. I have authorized the usual expense of Khilluts and of food to natives of Huzara accompanying the force, an establishment of four Moonshees, etc. It may be well worth the while of the Durbar to increase the reward for forts surrendered without resistance. In the event, however, of their disapproving of the remissions, I would beg that orders to this effect be promptly sent to meet Sirdar Jhundur Singh. I have instructed him to keep open a dak from his camp to Pind Dadun Khan and another from his camp to Dera Ismail Khan.

He is a clear-headed good soldier and does not need more than general instructions.

I touched in yesterday's Diary upon the importance of small mortars to the siege of such a place as Mooltan. I speak of course of the fortress—not the city. It appears to me that the bullock train might be employed to hand up ammunition should the supply at Ferozepoor be insufficient.

Mankera is said to be a town in the heart of a sandy desert defended by lofty battlements of sun-dried brick, and girdled with a dry ditch. Its strength consists in its isolation, it being two very long marches from the Indus and it being necessary to dig wells at the intermediate camp. I have written and fowarded to the Residency a letter or a Diary daily since the 26th April. I have as yet received only the Resident's two notes of the 26th and 23rd April.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,

Assistant Resident.

Closed 6th May 1848, daybreak.

No. 13.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 5th May 1848.

5th May 1848—Huripoor, Huzara.—The daks yesterday and today have brought letters from Lahore to others, but none to myself or my companions. The Peshawur dak is equally unfruitful.

A strange rumour of disturbances at Lahore has thus acquired power to give some uneasiness. Sirdar Jhundur Singh with the Chowrinjee Regiment of Cavalry, Dhara Singh's Infantry Corps (strengthened by two companies from Pertaub Singh and Baboo Pandah's Corps), with

Ummeer Chund's Horse Battery of 6-pounders and 40 Zumbooras, marched out of the station this morning *en route* for Mankera. The only existing gun road thither from hence passes through Julalpoor. In yesterday's Diary I particularised my instructions to the Sirdar, which were to give remissions from 10 to 15 per cent. to the zumeendars, who should come in readily, and 20 to 25 per cent. to those who also should surrender their castles; to guarantee the arrears of garrisons; to keep open a communication (daily) with Lahore and every third day with Huzara and Dera Ismail Khan. I begged that in the event of these remissions being disapproved by the Durbar counter-orders might be sent to meet the Sirdar at Julalpoor, my instructions to him being conditional. I have written daily since the outbreak in Mooltan, but have as yet received only the Resident's notes of the 23rd and 26th April.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Closed at daybreak 6th. Dak not yet in.

No. 14.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th May 1848.

6th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Received the Resident's letter No. 182 of 3rd instant, acknowledging the receipt of my covers of 26th and 28th ultimo. A note also from Captain Nicholson, Peshawur, giving a favourable report up to the 4th instant. These letters relieve me of some anxiety.

Colonel Canara, who commands a light field battery, waited upon me this morning with the strange report that Colonel Bhoop Singh's corps was recalled from Pukli with all the cavalry at that place, and begging for permission to bring his guns with them, as they would otherwise be lost. I assured him the order to which he alluded had been cancelled several days ago. It seems that this month in the opinion of the Sikhs is singularly auspicious to enterprize, containing five Thursdays. Dixit, Colonel Dhara Singh cujus legio ad Mankeram progressa est ad eum, multa tribulatione venisse, ingemens, "ire, certe, a castris apud hostem discedere, et Britannis præliari, certam esse cladem."

That this was the feeling of more than one I have good assurance, and the troops generally departed from Huzara in depressed spirits. I have not hesitated to part with nearly all the troops required by the Durbar's purwanas. I should of course have preferred the retention of the Huzara Field Force in its full strength for several years, until their late unresisted license were forgotten by the people. But the people are happier than they have ever been for 40 years. They are well aware that they owe this wholly to British interference in their behalf. Their rents have been greatly lightened, all their rights (beef-eating excepted) restored. The harvest is most plentiful, and there is not left a single cause of just complaint against their rulers if we except the severe punishments for cow-killing. Under these circumstances I feel justified in hoping that my influence will be sufficient to preserve order, and were it not the season of collection should have no uneasiness whatever upon the subject.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have written daily since the outbreak in Mooltan, excepting I believe the second day of my intelligence, 27th.

I have received—

The Resident's note of 26th April;
Ditto ditto 28th ditto;

and Resident's letter No. 182, 3rd May.

The impression of concert between the Nazim of Mooltan and the Army seems very general and very strong.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 15.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th May 1848.

7th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Reports have reached me this morning of some disturbance having occurred at Kussoor near Lahore, but I have no authentic intelligence. The impression continues strong of meditated treachery on the part of the Sikh forces sent against Mooltan.

The name of the village is even given on reaching which they are to declare [themselves (Mulla). I cannot discover whence these reports

arise, and they are important only in case they be confirmed by observed facts or symptoms. I have ever considered that the greatest danger threatening the Lahore State was its army and I have regarded the possession of the expensive province of Huzara in the light of a safety-valve for it.

Khan-i-Zeman Khan, Chief of Gundgarh, came in voluntarily to pay his respects yesterday. I had not sent for him on my return, knowing how much his first visit had cost him. The whole clan is involved in disputes about possessions which seem to defy adjustment. Jehandad Khan also has volunteered another visit, and the young son of Sooltan Hoseyne Khan of Moozufferabad has arrived to represent the Beerungulli Estate, as a subject of the Lahore Government. At the earnest request of the zumeendars of Jehandad Khan's jaghir, I am fixing their settlements, a precaution quite necessary to prevent oppression. I have ordered in three guns of Colonel Nooroodddeen's battery from Hussun Ubdal and two companies to be relieved by two of Pertaub Singh's Regiment at Karoo Khowta. There are no symptoms of disaffection. But the Chiefs have been making up their several parties to await the event of the commotions in Mooltan. After rendering the service of the Church I held Kucherry as usual. So many cases have accumulated during my absence that I do not feel justified in indulging in the rest of the Sabbath at the expense of the interest of hundreds of the people over whom I am placed and who have come from a distance for justice.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Excepting on the 27th April I have written daily since the outbreak in Mooltan.

Received since then—

The Resident's note of 23rd April;

Ditto ditto 26th ditto;

The Resident's letter No. 182 of the 3rd May 1848.

J. ABBOTT.

Whilst closing this a letter from Sirdar Jhundur Singh from Chyloo Jhungie near Rawul Pindi complaining of the rotten and unserviceable condition of the gun hackeries made over by Colonel

Tara Singh to Colonel Umeer Chund. I was always opposed to the transfer of Umeer Chund to Tara Singh's *Topekhana*. The men of the battery have a kind of feud with him and the establishments which in his own *Topekhana* he had been labouring to get into order have been replaced by the rotten carriages of another battery. My views, however, were overruled, my orders cancelled, and the immediate consequence was the disaffection of the *Topekhana* at Karoo Khowta, a matter still under investigation. I have issued purwanas to the Kardars to procure mules or camels in exchange for the carts, but delay seems to be inevitable.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 16.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 8th May 1848.

8th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—All the Chiefs to whom I have proposed the sending of some of their followers with Sirdar Jhundur Singh have readily acquiesced. Mohyooddeen Khan, Gundgurria, has volunteered himself to accompany, and I have accepted the reluctant offer of Nuwab Khan of Tunnole to the same effect. The presence of these men may be useful to the Sirdar on emergency.

The uncle of Jehandad Khan, the Bhaingra Chief, fled to me this day for refuge. He was preceded by a letter from Jehandad saying that his uncle was coming to attack him with all the levies of Tunnole and that report said the Sikh Troops in Pukli had joined them. He himself is to be here to-morrow. His confidant, Mir Zemaun Khan of Gundgurh, dictates to him the most cruel, lawless and impolitic acts which have alienated all hearts from him. I long ago recommended him to discard this man, but he makes himself too necessary to the Khan's pleasure.

There is a rumour to-day of some meditated commotion in the district, but I cannot ascertain whence it arises, or what is the nature of the apprehended movement. A man who seldom goes abroad left his house to give me the warning. Nuwab Khan of Tunnole complaining of the insufficiency of his jaghir of 1,200 rupees, and volunteering to go with Sirdar Jhundur Singh, I accepted his offer to his great dismay. He

afterwards went to Sirdar Chuttur Singh and without informing him (probably) of what had passed got his sanction to remain here and send his brother. I have insisted upon his holding by his first proposition, and assured him it is his only hope of an increase of income.

Captain Lumsden's note of the 5th instant came to hand to-day. I have answered it by this day's dak, 9th May 1848, daybreak.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 17.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 9th May 1848.

9th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Received Captain Lumsden's note of the 6th instant. I had previously sent an express to Sirdar Jhundur Singh to inform him of Captain Edwardes' critical position and urge him to hasten his march. I shall now let him know the altered aspect of affairs in that Dooab, as it is highly desirable that his troops arrive in an effective condition. Whatever orders are necessary should be sent without delay to meet the Sirdar at Pind Dadun Khan. If there be the slightest chance of defection it is far better they were recalled. I have already given the surmises of the people of this neighbourhood and the feelings of the officers upon the subject, and these are not encouraging: a single bad example is to be avoided. I have no late news from Peshawur though I write daily. Report says that Ursulla Khan has fled thither for refuge from his son. Jehandad Khan, the Bhaingra Chief, has arrived in this neighbourhood. His uncle fled to me the day before yesterday. I should have preferred his remaining in his own country just now; but he professes to be alarmed and was urgent to come hither. Khan-i-Zeman Khan has not yet departed. Received a visit from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who is sending a confidential servant to his son, Raja Shere Singh; endeavoured to settle some of the controversies amongst the Gundgurrias, and heard the case of alleged mutiny last January of the Golundauze of the Khowta guns. The Jemadar appears to me to be the culprit and the Golundauze seem wholly innocent. I defer judgment however pending the arrival of two witnesses called for.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 18.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 10th May 1848.

10th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—The post from Lahore has arrived this day without a letter for me. My letter has therefore been intercepted. I heard, however, from Peshawur, where all was right on the 8th. "Fertur sed mihi incredibile videtur, exercitum Brittanicum, dum ab humo implorat civium sanguis immerite perfusa, dum ultionem gentes expectant frementes, sese a hoste in Lahorem firmare. Ita in Caburam fuit. Ita hic si sit, Natio nos contemptu evomeret." I spoke very seriously to Jehandad Khan upon the necessity of dismissing his evil genius, Mir Zeman Khan, Gundgurria, assuring him that he had already through that man's counsels alienated the hearts of both subjects and neighbours, and that I should not interfere to prevent the consequences unless he were sent away. He is infatuated and will probably not listen to advice. It is highly necessary that any orders intended for Sirdar Jhundur Singh be sent him without delay to Pind Dadun Khan whether to halt, to advance, or to return. The risk is great of bringing troops into contact with treachery, the more especially if delay is meditated.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Closed at sunrise. Post not in. I have written daily (27th April) since the outbreak in Mooltan. I have receipts for only one or two covers.

No. 19.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 11th and 12th May 1848.

11th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—No letter to-day from Lahore. The chilaun also is blank, so that if Captain Lumsden wrote his letter must have been intercepted at Lahore. The chilaun has, however, neither seal nor signature. Some receipts for my letters came by this post. But the signature is illegible, so that I am quite ignorant whether my letters reach their destination or are intercepted. The Thannadar at Dunna writes that the detachment of 10 Zumbooras at that fort have deserted their post to join the rest of their troop marching with Sirdar Jhundur Singh. They had the strictest orders to stand fast.

It is much to be doubted whether Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigade should be allowed to advance further than Pind Dadun Khan. I have written several times to beg that further orders may be sent the Sirdar to that place. I still indulge the hope that vigorous measures will be taken to put down this revolt and that the Resident will not wait until the meshes of treachery are inextricably woven around us.

I have written urgently this day upon the subject to the Resident. The 27th April is the only day since the outbreak on which I have not written.

12th May 1848 —Hurripoor, Huzara.—The post has brought me a note from Captain Lumsden after two blank posts. It is unfortunately not dated. It mentions the capture of General Kaun Singh for conspiracy. Yesterday, the Dunna Thannadar informed me of the first symptoms of disaffection in those mountains. The Kurrals had sent to the Dhoonds, telling them not to pay their rents as the Sikh Empire was over in Mooltan. The country is very strong and the weakened field force of Huzara could not spare a column sufficient for its subjection. A letter from Major Lawrence of the 9th gives favourable news to that date. He has enclosed me a copy of his note to the Resident which I have sent on under cover, lest it be lost. His arguments are of great weight, and I most earnestly hope the Resident will attend to them. I cannot believe that any two men acquainted with military matters and beyond suspicion as fearless and conscientious public servants could be found to advocate delay at this crisis.

News from Moozuffurabad states that Maharaja Goolab Singh is gradually strengthening that post (since the outbreak). The force amounts at present to 3,000 men. Rumour says he has thoughts of visiting the spot. He has always kept up a regular correspondence with the Barukzye chiefs at Cabul. Aid from him is confidently relied upon by the disaffected. But his operations are secret and I have no proof of machinations on his part in the present conspiracy. Three heavy guns which I ordered in from Karoo Khowta arrived yesterday, and fired a salute according to custom. The officers have not waited upon me, the first instance of neglect which I have experienced. I have sent for them therefore.

Closed daybreak, 13th May. J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 20.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 13th May 1848.

13th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—No news by the Lahore dak to-day, although Captain Lumsden gave me to suppose he would write daily. I have also no certain information of the letters I write; a few receipts are returned with illegible cyphers; others never reappear. My letters from Lahore rarely acknowledge receipt of any cover and often the seals appear to have been opened; all this causes needless anxiety, and it is impossible to take fresh precautions unless I know how far the past have failed. I have written daily (27th April excepted) since the outbreak at Mooltan and since Captain Lumsden opened his correspondence I have daily sent two covers, one of them to him. I hope it will be found possible to let me have a single line, if but of ten words, daily as then the failure of a dak will be manifest. I have had three blank daks since Captain Lumsden's correspondence commenced. News from Peshawur up to the 11th favorable. We live in the hope that the only measure which can avert the threatening evil has, even though late, been adopted, and that the British Army has advanced upon Mooltan. Had this measure been taken at once the Sikh Army had been paralyzed and had awaited to see the first results. The Chiefs of Huzara have made up their several parties, as usual when changes are expected. All the intelligence I can collect from the Sikh Army tends to the same impression at which I have often hinted and which Major Lawrence has plainly stated. The poor of this country look to me for protection, and so long as we maintain our ancient reputation the Chiefs also will look to me for further advancement and for protection against their Government. My great object is to prevent any excitement in the minds of the most excitable people in the world. At present the country is still enjoying a measure of peace, prosperity and protection, unknown for forty years. But any outbreak of the Huzara Field Force would arouse the discontented throughout the land. In spite of reports and impressions I indulge the hope that the Peshawur and Huzara Brigades would stand fast, not from disinclination to join, but from consideration of the hazard of deserting those important posts. The Kurral Chief, accused of having incited the Dhoonds to stop payment, has come in upon my summons. I have no reason, however, to discredit the report, but at present my evidence is not sufficient for his convic-

tion. He is the most treacherous and cowardly of all the chiefs of Huzara.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 21.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 14th May 1848.

14th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Having to-day taken the precaution to open the dak bag myself, I drew out the Resident's official letter of 8th and Captain Lumsden's notes of 10th and 11th instant. There cannot be a doubt from the bearing and evasive attempts of the Moonshee that this establishment is in the interest of the conspirators.

A report was yesterday brought, requiring confirmation, that Captain Edwardes had fallen upon and defeated with slaughter a large army of Mulkeeas upon the borders of Bukkur; another report, elicited from a boasting Sikh soldier, stated that the 15th *Jayt* (25th May) is the day appointed for the reunion of the whole Khalsa Army. Two Sapper Sergeants and 12 Pioneers arrived to-day to relieve the 12 on duty with the survey. I have detained the new arrivals pending reference, as their presence may be of the utmost value in case of commotions. They enable me and Lieutenant Robinson to sleep under a British sentry. The wisdom of Lord Hardinge provided me with an escort of British sipahis. The jealousy of the Military authorities deprived me of it. But the late officiating Resident and General Commanding the Division allowed me to retain 30 men of the company. These by some measure were reduced to 12, a number insufficient for the current duties. It seems to have been accepted as a matter of course that no tumults were to arise in the Sikh Army, whilst our justice had disgusted every predatory official in the Punjaub.

I have ever calcutated upon commotions and have only wondered they were so long deferred. I arrived this evening at a musjid of the city just in time to prevent collision between the Moosulmans and Hindoos.

The musjid and temple are in the same neighbourhood and the *Azaun* and *Sunk* are sounded together. This is most provoking to the Moosulmans, as no human beings can vie with a conch in discord. I had previously endeavoured to arrange that the sounds should be differently timed. An uproar of this nature might be attended with consequences fatal to the peace of Huzara as the Sikhs of the army side with the Hindoos.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Closed at daybreak, 15th.

No. 22.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, without date, received on the 11th May 1848.

This day's post has brought no letter from Lahore. But the news from Peshawur up to 13th was favorable; all here continues quiet. I have let the Kurral Chief know that I shall visit upon him any demur of the Dhoonds to pay their rents. I have had many hearty assurances of devotion from the Chiefs of Huzara, and with timely intelligence should not fear being able to annihilate the Field Force here in the event of treachery; my great anxiety is to prevent excitation of the minds of the people. The condition of the country at present is so happy and smiling that it would wring my heart to see it disturbed. I have made this reply to all who have pressed their services upon me, assuring them of my confidence and that if I need their aid I shall gladly summon them. Reports are less rife the last few days. General Sooltan Maimood sent an offering of quail and came over to wait upon me. This man has of late utterly neglected the etiquette prescribed by military discipline, which I have not noticed because I have had occasion to report him unfavorably. The present symptom is indicative either of news unfavorable to the discontented or of a desire to lull suspicion. He is in correspondence with Mooltan. I took occasion to sound Colonel Richpal Singh as to the temper of his corps almost wholly composed of Sikhs. He assures me that he believes their fidelity unshaken. I told him that if the Sikh Army played any tricks we must destroy it to a man; that we had spared it because the

sovereign was a minor, but that rebellion would oblige us to annihilate it; that the regiments, however, who continued faithful would be cherished and honored. The corps has been much on service under my own eye and is I think kindly inclined towards me. When I was about to run up to Uggrore I ordered the company of my escort to be relieved. But the whole of the men begged permission to remain saying that they had enjoyed the plains with me and would now take the toil of the mountains with pleasure.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 23.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 16th May 1848.

16th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—To-day's post has brought no letter from Lahore, nor any acknowledgment of my daily double cover. News from Peshawur of the 14th is favorable. Rumour is again busy and it is confidently believed by the troops here that the whole of the Sikh Force sent against Moolraj are engaged to desert to his standard. It is very certain that the Cavalry do not fight, and I never could comprehend the object of their mission. I was beginning to entertain some hope of the staunchness of the Huzara Field Force, but this evening I learn from Peshawur that Pertaub Singh, Commandant of a Missal of Sikh Horse of Sirdar Goordutt Singh's Gola, has deserted its post at Pukli, in spite of the repeated orders of Colonel Bhoop Singh, Commanding, and is in full march to join the Sirdar at his bidding. I have written a strong remonstrance but without much hope of success, and the example is likely to produce the worst consequences. I have written so much and so strongly in my journals, notes and public despatches upon the absolute necessity of an instant advance of the British Army, that were I assured all my letters had reached their destination, I should not repeat advice in which I am so warmly backed by every person acquainted with the Punjaub and the Sikh Army. Delay, when a fearful and instant retribution is everywhere expected, will be attributed to timidity. We hold our position in the Punjaub wholly by the force of opinion, by the general belief in our superior courage and resources. Our

Empire in India has the same foundation, and one or both may pass away if we evince any symptoms of hesitation. By delay, every traitor from the snowy mountains to the Sutlej will have time to complete his web. The army already faltering will, it is to be feared, succumb. Scinde may probably join in the rebellion, and the large British Force at this moment available may be necessary to preserve tranquillity in our own dominions. As to the danger from sun and flood it is a mere shadow compared with the peril of quiescence. We have every boat of the five rivers at command. Report says that the Jumboo Ruler is increasing his army quietly. It has been strengthened at Moozuffurabad, but this is nowise extraordinary, as the mountaineers there have received much wrong at his hands. We have no news from Edwardes or Taylor. Report again speaks of an engagement in that quarter, but the former report of Edwardes' victory over the Mooltanies is unconfirmed.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 24.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 17th May 1848.

17th May 1848.—After three barren posts from Lahore Captain Lumsden's notes of 13th and 14th instant have this day arrived together. From them I find that on the 14th fourteen of my letters, *viz.*, seven to the Resident and seven to Captain Lumsden had been intercepted. The Dak Moonshee produced chilauns signed by the Lahore Moonshee acknowledging the receipt of all. He has from the first been so disconcerted when asked about missing letters that strong suspicion has been inevitable. The whole post is manifestly engaged in a conspiracy, which is far wider spread than seems to be believed at Lahore. The prevailing report of the day is the participation of Maharaja Goolab Singh. He is said to have summoned many of the mountain chiefs of Huzara and to be in close correspondence with members of the army here. From Captain Lumsden's notes I gather that about 11 or more of his letters to me have been intercepted. This is a matter of the first importance and deserving vigorous measures of correction. The chilauns accompanying the Lahore post do not exhibit any notice of

the letters so that they are probably stopped at Lahore, though certainly not without knowledge of the Moonshee here. The soldiery still speak with confidence of the purpose of Sirdar Jhundur Singh's and Raja Sher Singh's Brigades to go over to the enemy. News from Peshawur up to 15th favorable. They have the same report there which prevails here, *viz.*, that a day of this month is fixt for the general assembly of the Sikh Army. Their report, however, makes it 13th *Jayt*, ours the 15th. Sirdar Chuttur Singh paid me a visit this evening.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 25.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 18th May 1848.

18th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—This day's post brought me the Resident's letter No. 192 of 15th instant and Mr. Cock's note of same date, together with receipts for my letters of——. This is some satisfaction, but it is not the less manifest that the Post Office establishment is devoted to the conspirators. I am somewhat comforted to learn that a powerful army is being assembled. But speed is of extreme importance, every hour of delay increasing the difficulty. From the consternation of the Jumboo Prince's people I gather that the reports of his participation are not unfounded. Colonel Canara called upon me to-day and informed me that an Adjutant named Urbail Singh had been sent to join his battery, who is noted as the most mutinous officer in the Sikh Army and as the principal instrument of Colonel Foulke's murder. I beg that a purwana may be sent recalling this man without delay; he has probably been sent here as a firebrand. A man who has returned from Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigade declares that the soldiers speak openly of their intention to side with the rebels ; at Peshawur all was *in statu quo* on 16th. The Missal of Sirdar Goordut Singh Burhania's Gola of Horse, which deserted its post at Pukli, arrived here to-day in spite of my purwana to them to return. They have, however, promised to go back to their post to-morrow. A serious complaint of the grossest abuse is preferred against General Sooltan Maimood by the Native Officers and Golundauze of Colonel Canara's Battery. I long ago begged that this man might be removed from Huzara, where he had created one mutiny in the Artillery, but my

request was not complied with. This battery is now so disgusted with his conduct that there is reason to apprehend desertion. I have taken the evidence of the plaintiffs and will do my best to make some settlement, but it is a perplexing case.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

Closed at daybreak, 19th May.

No. 26.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 19th May 1848.

19th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—This day's post has brought me the Resident's letter of the 16th instant, informing me of the deportation of the Queen-Dowager of Lahore, and Mr. Cocks' note of the same date. Yesterday I received the Resident's letter and Mr. Cocks' note of the 15th. Intelligence from Peshawur of the 17th reports matters *in statu quo*. I write daily two letters to Lahore. The chilauns returned from thence acknowledge the receipt at Lahore of all the letters sent; yet they seem not to come to hand. I have no authentic intelligence from Jumboo. Here all is still quiet. Adjutant Urbail Singh has arrived. I have elsewhere in yesterday's note mentioned him. It is highly advisable that he remain not here, as there are elements of strife in the Artillery and Infantry here stationed, which may turn into something worse. I have mentioned one of these, General Sooltan Maimood, whom I could wish removed to some honorable office elsewhere. Here he has almost created a second outbreak. I think it would tend to soothe the irritation of the Sikh officers were they assured that in the corps which prove loyal the officers shall be reinstated in the rank of which they were deprived after the occupation of Lahore. I do not think they will ever heartily serve the Government whilst this is withheld. I have no news of Sirdar Jhundur Singh of late date. The chief officers of his force are, I think, loyally inclined, but some of the privates speak openly of an intention to desert. The Cavalry Regiment is perhaps the best inclined. Had Colonel Umeer Singh retained his old company and battery it might have been depended upon. But he has no knowledge of his present company, and they are probably disgusted at his reluctance to join them. All the chiefs here are warm in their professions of loyalty and several

have begged permission to plant their sentries and sleep themselves around the tower which I occupy. But I have steadily declined any exhibition of diffidence toward my Sikh guards, who still furnish my sentinels. I am beside, most anxious not to unsettle people's minds by the prospect of change. The country at present is enjoying rare felicity and it must not be disturbed without the most urgent need. They assure me that in the course of a night from five to ten thousand armed men would gather under my banner were there any alarm of treachery. Reports have become less frequent of late. The last is that Raja Sher Singh had been defeated. There appears, however, no foundation for the rumours. I am truly happy to hear that a large British Force is assembling for Mooltan, and I trust that no more overtures will hinder its advance as it is a great object of the insurgents to gain time. I am obliged to make many repetitions because my letters seem to be intercepted.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Closed at daybreak, 20th May.

No. 27.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 20th May 1848.

20th May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—This day's post brought me the Resident's letter and Messrs. Cocks' and Hodson's notes of the 17th. Reports have been less frequent for several days past. The army await with anxiety the result of Raja Sher Singh's advance and the conduct of his troops on the occasion. Colonel Canara's Golundauze Company here is almost disorganized by the insulting demeanour of General Sooltan Maimood, and in Richpal Singh's corps the most serious discontent has been evinced at past exactions of that officer. I am endeavouring to heal the wounds with the least possible agitation. Sirdar Goordut Singh's Missal of Horse returned to-day towards its post at Pukli. I had arranged with the Nazim to seize the principal officers should they persist in their mutiny. They plead the order of their Sirdar and their want of funds. I have ordered an advance to be made them on their return. From Peshawur the news continued favorable to the 8th. Major Lawrence is most anxious that the pay of the troops at Peshawur

and Huzara should not be entrusted to Sirdar Mehtab Singh's or Sirdar Goordut Singh's Horse. The latter has just arrived at Hussun Ubdal. It is certainly a matter of the first moment, and it seems advisable that drafts upon the neighbouring treasuries should furnish the needful funds instead of the cash being sent from a distance just now.

I write and send daily a diary and a note.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

News from Pukli states that Moolraj has applied to Cabul for aid to be sent him by the lower route.

No. 28.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 21st May 1848.

21st May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—This day's post has brought me a duplicate of the Resident's letter No. 197 of 16th May, the particulars of which I have explained and published. The army and garrisons here continue in the hush of expectation, waiting to shape their conduct with the tide of coming events. The merchants and shopkeepers have taken alarm and dare not purchase the grain of the cultivators; the tide of travelling merchants has ceased to flow into Hurripoor; confidence is at an end and can be restored only by a general clearing up of the political horizon. I dare not mention the remote time to which our forward movement is deferred. Unfortunately the public prints make no secret of it. In the present state of affairs in Mooltan the advance of our army would dissolve the conspiracy. The settlement of the case by quiet measures appears to me far from desirable. A terrible example is required and nothing less will restore our reputation to the brilliance it had acquired after the battle of Subraon. The punishment of two or three miserable instruments will not be accepted by the natives as the retribution due for the butchery of our Political Agents by such unparalleled treachery, and the peaceful surrender of Mooltan will leave our position in the Punjaub weaker than ever. News of the 19th from Peshawur, all still quiet.

I believe Maharaja Goolab Singh is still in Cashmere and that the reports of his military movements have been distorted.

He is not likely to take any overt part in a rebellion so little ripened.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Should any Vuqueel from Moolraj come to Lahore, he will be entrusted with the task of seducing the army.

No. 29.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 22nd May 1848.

22nd May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Yesterday's post brought me Captain Lumsden's note of the 19th and a letter from Peshawur of the 20th. From the latter place there is no news. I have written daily to Lahore my diary and a note to one of the Assistants; the latter is sent through Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud. My letters have been pretty regular of late, but the irregularity will recommence whenever it is of importance to the conspirators to cut off our intelligence, as no one seems to have been punished for the former loss or detention of letters, of which Captain Lumsden once reported 12 to be due, which had not then arrived. There are many reports in circulation; that of greatest importance is the intense interest with which the whole army and the Sikh population still look for the 15th of *Jayt* as the day for the appearing of their new Gooroo at Lahore.

I purpose moving out for a few days into a cooler and healthier spot, about 14 miles north of Hurripoor. All my people are getting ill here owing to the impurity of the water.

I have ordered Adjutant Urbail Singh back to Lahore. He has been sent here for mischief. The accusations against Colonel Richpal Singh have been investigated and I hope to settle the matter quietly. Those against General Sooltan Maimood are under investigation. It were far better that he were removed. At Jelum, Rohtas, Rawul Pindi and Ghaybi it is said (I know not by what authority) that Moolraj has agents enlisting soldiers, and that the Kardars wink at their proceedings.

The absence of Captain Nicholson is much to be lamented.

It is also rumoured that the Ghaybi people have invited Moolraj to take possession.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 30.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 23rd and 24th May 1848.

23rd May 1848—Hurripoor, Huzara.—This morning I received Captain Lumsden's note of the 20th and news from Peshawur of the 21st, when all was *in statu quo.* I have sent out my tent to a valley north of Hurripoor, which is cool and shady. I myself and all the establishment are getting ill and require change. The water here is extremely unwholesome, coming from the flooded fields, and the heat is very great. A letter for Captain Edwardes from the Resident has been sent me by to-day's dak, evidently on purpose that it may not reach Captain Edwardes to whom it is distinctly addressed. In the chilaun they have had the precaution to note "1 letter for Captain Abbott," according to the testimony of the chuprassie. Such shallow artifices cannot avail, and I trust one or two of the establishment will be hanged or sent beyond seas; or there is no hope of any important letters arriving safely. The whole establishment is in the pay of Moolraj or rather of Moolraj's employers. I have no news from Bunnoo. I sent my journal and note of yesterday by this morning's post as usual.

24th May—Camp near Hurripoor.—I left Hurripoor last night and am encamped in a shady cool spot in the neighbourhood. The whole dak of to-day has been intercepted. I wrote last night a few lines in pencil to Captain Lumsden that he might not receive a blank dak, but I sent no journal. I write also daily to Peshawur, from whence I heard to-day (date 22nd) all as before. This country remains quiet. But the army and the Sikh sect are all in anxiety to know whether Raja Sher Singh and Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Forces will desert to the enemy or continue staunch. Lieutenant Robinson and Mr. Ingram are here with me employed upon the map. I have one Sikh company and

12 horsemen as an escort, and the chiefs are in attendance or represented by sons or brothers. We have also 24 sappers and two sapper sergeants.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 31.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 25th May 1848.

25th May 1848—Camp near Hurripoor.—The post of to-day has brought me the Resident's letter No. 214 of 22nd May (to which I will reply at length) and Captain Lumsden's note of same date; all continues here as before. The letter bag due yesterday arrived when all hope of it was past; not, however, until I had ordered the dak Moonshee at Hurripoor to join my camp. It brought me Captain Lumsden's note of the 21st. As the insertion of prevalent reports has been blamed by the Resident, I shall insert no more without specific orders. I had supposed that such would be of the utmost value at the Residency, where all rumours from all quarters of the Punjaub can be compared together with a view to ascertain their probability. As a straw shows the action of an otherwise imperceptible current, so do these reports when compared together show the current of public feeling and very often are the only indications of deeply laid conspiracies. I regret to find that they are not only deemed unimportant, but that blame is attached to their simple insertion in a diary, which, if it be of any use whatever, is to convey a picture of passing impressions which time does not allow us to investigate or confirm. All continues in Huzara as before. The return of the Missal, which left its post in spite of repeated orders to stand fast, will I trust have a good effect. It could not be removed from Pukli without risk both of dispiriting the weakened brigade there and of encouraging the armed population to refuse payment of their rents. The position of the troops in Huzara is a great check upon their defection. The weakening of the Huzara Field Force by rendering their present position perilous would strengthen any disposition to desert it.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

I wrote and sent yesterday my diary and a note to Captain Lumsden.

No. 32.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara from the 26th to the 28th May 1848.

26th May 1848—Camp near Hurripoor, Huzara.—Employed the whole day in Kucherry reading urzees and settling disputes until sunset. News from Peshawur of the 24th favorable. The post came in late, bringing Captain Lumsden's letter of the 23rd.

28th May—Camp as above.—Employed as yesterday. The disputes concerning landed property in Dumtour are so virulent that I am obliged to send an especial Commissioner to settle them. I would adjourn thither myself but for its distance from the dak line, a matter just now of some consequence.

The dak is in to-day in good time, and brings me Captain Lumsden's note of 24th and a note from Captain Nicholson, Peshawur. Also a note from Captain Taylor, Bunnoo, without date, giving a good account of the army and people up to the hour of writing. Captain Edwardes was on the right bank of the Indus opposite Leiah, and General Cortlandt had gone to take possession of the Ghazee Khan ilaquah.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 33.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 28th and 29th May 1848.

28th May—Camp near Hurripoor.—After divine service I held Kucherry until sunset. Instead of forwarding my diary of to-day I have addrest an official letter to the Resident upon the subject of intelligence received from Cashmere that a Jumboo Force of 4,000 men is about to march to Moozuffurabad, where there are already 3,000. This report may be a feint of the Maharaja to overcome the hill tribes, who, though quite peaceful at present, have been much opprest and are ready enough to rise when opportunity offers. It is, however, quite needless for I have with me the son of Sooltan Hoosayne Khan, and our influence has previously been quite sufficient to keep them in

order. It is highly desirable therefore that this report, which has greatly alarmed them and may drive them to desperation, be contradicted; and I have accordingly addrest the Maharaja disclaiming belief in such a rumour, and assuring him that any movement of troops in this direction at this moment will not have a friendly aspect. The assembly of any force upon the frontier were an encouragement to the insurgents in Mooltan and to others who are disposed to join them.

29th May 1848—Camp as above.—Addrest another official letter to the Resident upon the subject above noted. I had not understood yesterday that another Jumboo force was said to be about to march from Cashmere upon Kurnao, a district between the Cashmere river and the Kishengunga. This Force is rated at 6,000. The mountaineers anxiously enquire of me whether they may not defend themselves from this invasion. I have declined putting any restraint upon their measures of self defence, assuring them, however, that any rising, excepting to resist invasion, would subject them to the displeasure of the British Government. If they can act in concert, they ought to be able to destroy this force, large as it is, their country being strong and the whole population bearing arms.

If these military movements are really contemplated, they are highly objectionable at this season, and of a most suspicious character. The information is the best I can command, and agrees perfectly with the manifest apprehension of the Jumboo Moonshee in my camp.

The Maharaja would plead his right to move his troops wheresoever he pleases within his own kingdom, but he is perfectly well aware of the sensation they will create in the Punjaub.

This is one of the many dangers to be apprehended from delay in avenging the innocent blood in Mooltan. I have written so often and so strongly and so vainly upon the subject, backed by the authority of every officer in the Punjaub acquainted with the people and army, that I can scarcely hope my voice will avail at the eleventh hour. But there shall at least be an official record that I have fearlessly recommended such a policy as would save the British name from degrading imputations, abate the courage of our enemies, and restore the confidence of our well-wishers.

The people of the Punjaub honor and love us. But every Kardar, every Moonshee, every Thannadar, in short every creature that can write or cast accounts, is our bitter enemy; and as all business must be transacted through them, their power is very considerable.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have written Captain Lumsden by this day's post through Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud. My official letter No. 5 accompanies this.

No. 34.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 30th May 1848.

30th May 1848—Camp near Hurripoor, Huzara.—News from Moozuffurabad strengthens the information received from Cashmere. The Maharaja Goolab Singh is either marching a considerable force toward this frontier, or he has contrived that such should be generally believed. The whole valley of Pukli is in expectation and dread of a tyrant so abhorred by them. It is well known that a close intimacy subsists between this Prince and Sirdar Chuttur Singh, Nazim of Huzara, and it is generally believed that the intercourse by letter is frequent; yet I can get no intelligence of the state of affairs in Cashmere from this quarter. Yesterday I sent to Lahore an official letter and my diary addressed to the Resident and a note to Captain Lumsden, the latter through the Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud. I received by the post of this day Captain Lumsden's notes of 26th and 27th; the former was inserted in the chilaun of the former day, but a private note from Umbala was afterwards substituted for it. The fraud was detected by their incautiously leaving the memo. "Kar-i-sirkar" uneffaced. News from Peshawur of the 28th favorable. A report from Candahar states that the brothers there are fighting, and that the city is invested. Afghan news however is always to be distrusted. I have news of Captain Taylor as late as the 23rd. All was well. The people still obedient through the admirable arrangements made there, and the army quiet. But one and the same impression pervades all classes and regions, *viz.*, that the Sikh troops will not fight in this cause.

The post is just in with the news of Captain Edwardes' victories at Dera Ghazee Khan. I propose publishing the tidings and firing a salute of 21 guns, which I trust will be approved.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have written as usual to Captain Lumsden by this post.

No. 35.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 1st to the 3rd June 1848.

1st June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—Marched to Sherwaun, a table summit about 20 miles north of Hurripoor; there I have a small bungalow and purpose remaining until summoned in any other direction by the state of affairs. The spot is centrical and the climate more healthful than any other part of Huzara.

Reports from Pukli state that much alarm is felt there at the supposed advance of a Jumboo Force. Excepting, however, the intelligence received from Sooltan Hoosayne Khan, who has the best means of information, all the accounts are vague and at any other time would attract no attention. At the present moment even false reports cannot be neglected owing to the effect they are calculated to produce upon the minds of the people and of the army, who receive them greedily. The dak came in in good time. News to the 29th from Peshawur favorable.

2nd June—Sherwaun.—Much of my time is unnecessarily spent in collecting intelligence, giving private audiences, preparing the daily bulletin for Lahore and Peshawur. The rest of the day is consumed in reading urzees and giving orders upon them and in arranging petty appeals in Kucherry. My power in this country is nothing if estimated by the troops at my command, but in the assurance the people have that I am their friend it is very great; and were I to deny myself to their appeals it would speedily be impaired. I have no authentic intelligence of consequence. Many reports are spread designedly to unsettle men's minds.

3rd June—Sherwaun.—To-day I have been assailed by a host of rumors which turn into thin air the instant their authority is questioned.

That they are believed by the people I perceive from their anxiety on my account, and the enquiries they daily make whether I am sure all is right at Lahore.

The reasons for proclaiming Meean Jowahir Singh Raja of Bhimbur not having been communicated to me, I am unable to conjecture how that step may affect the loyalty of the Maharaja of Jumboo. The general impression here is that it must cause him and his eldest son alarm; and, if so, double vigilance is requisite upon all his movements. The disaffected look to him as their only hope. But I imagine that the Sirdars in general have had enough of him, nor does it seem probable that he would under any circumstances, save those of apprehension, yield more countenance to rebels than would suffice to entangle them in their own toils, and lend additional lustre to his own fidelity. Although Sooltan Hoosayne Khan has command of the best intelligence of his movements, which in fact is necessary in his own safety, yet the reports which have reached me the last day or two dispose me to question the accuracy of his report. The alarm continues in Pukli and in Kurnao, but there is no consistency in the estimate of the numbers of the army, and all this alarm might have place equally were the Maharaja to whisper the project of an invasion which he did not really contemplate.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 36.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 4th June 1848.

4th June 1848—Sherwaun.—There is little variety in the reports of this day, which veer north-east, but are not traceable to any substantial basis. The Sooltan's people sent a messenger for fresh intelligence, who has just returned, and insists upon the correctness of the first report, but adds that the two columns have not yet moved, and that the Moozuffurabad Column is called a mere relief, a designation belied by the appointment to it of Dewan Kurrum Chund, who was long in Pukli and curried favor with Umeen Khan, the principal Chief there, by supporting him in all his feuds and oppression. He is a fit instrument of intrigue, and should he really take command at Moozuffurabad, it

will be far more than his apparent office would indicate. In spite, however, of his influence over the Chief aforesaid, the dread and detestation of his master is so great and universal that I doubt not to be able to nullify his projects should their existence be manifested.

The letter bag came to-day without seal and contained no letter for me. An English writer on Lieutenant Robinson's establishment, who had been absent for some weeks, returned yesterday. It remains to be seen whether Captain Lumsden wrote.

News of the 2nd from Peshawur is favorable and that from Bunnoo of 28th equally so. Held Kucherry as usual.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 37.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 5th June 1848.

5th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The post bag to-day arrived open at bottom, whether accidentally or by design I know not. The chilaun corresponded with the contents, but as the chilauns are never sealed it is easy to change them. I received the Resident's two letters of the 1st and 2nd and an envelope containing a receipt, but no letter from Captain Lumsden has arrived either yesterday or to-day. The news from Peshawur is of the 3rd and favorable. I have also news from Captain Taylor of the 28th, when all was tranquil in his neighbourhood, Captain Edwardes being on the 23rd about 30 miles north of Pind Ghazee Khan.

The Resident's letter of the 2nd instant rebukes me for the tone of my communications as deficient in respect. I trust there shall be no further cause of complaint upon this score. The haste in which my despatches are penned may occasionally have begotten carelessness in the wording and more than once, had time allowed, I should have altered sentences in letters for which the post was waiting. I am fully sensible of the necessity of decorum in official correspondence. But the subjects which have lately engaged attention have been of the most exciting character in which it is difficult to soften down expressions without awakening the force of argument,—at least I, who write always

in haste and have no means of making copies of my journals, have found it so, and have regretted it.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Since yesterday there is no authentic intelligence from Cashmere. Reports have been industriously circulated in Huzara that British influence has but a month more to run. But with a single exception, *viz.*, a boundary dispute, they have produced as yet no injury to my influence.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 38.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th June 1848.

6th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The post of to-day brought me a cover from Mr. Skinner, Head Clerk of the Residency, enclosing letters from the post, but no letter from Captain Lumsden. I hear, however, that he has been absent from Lahore. The news from Peshawur is of the 4th and favorable. From Cashmere I have no very recent authentic intelligence. I have reason, however, to believe, upon comparison of the various reports that the Sooltan's first information is substantially correct excepting as to the numbers. It is probable that the calculations are made according to custom by the number of corps, reckoning each at the old strength of 1,000 men. What the real strength may be it is impossible to conjecture. On the peace establishment the Jumboo regiments do not average above 250 men per corps. But they are filled up according to the nature of the emergency to 500 or 800 men, seldom I think to 1,000. These regiments with a few exceptions are almost undrilled. Being miserably paid and wholly without motive to gallantry, they were on two occasions defeated by the armed peasantry of Huzara with great loss, and in one case under circumstances reflecting great discredit upon the troops. Nothing but the presence and interference of British Officers prevented their annihilation. They are of course in the plain vastly inferior to the Sikh troops. But in mountain campaigns, where the paths admit of but one abreast and evolutions are out of the question, the disparity is not so manifest and

the material of many of the corps is excellent, *viz.*, Dogra and Chibb Rajpootras. On these occasions numbers generally prevail or the hill-men are wearied out by delay and return to sow or to reap their crops.

A Sikh Gooroo has arrived at Hurripoor and has been received by the Sirdar and troops with extraordinary honor. I have not yet learnt who he is, from whence come, or whither bound.

The reports hinted at in former diaries continue prevalent. I cannot, however, find any solid basis for them, nor comprehend what can be hoped by the Sirdars from intrigues with the Dogra.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 39.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th June 1848.

7th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—Umeen Khaun, Chief of Pukli, whom I had summoned to consult with me upon the state of the frontier, has just arrived and brought more authentic intelligence. He says that six regiments have certainly marched upon Kurnao, but that no force had advanced upon Moozuffurabad. The strength of the regiments is unknown. He agrees with me that on my invitation they would to a man desert their master owing to the ill-treatment they experience.

The four regiments which are said to be camped upon the Moozuffurabad road, have very possibly been so posted merely to overawe the Sooltan, and, if so, their advance will be prevented by the letters adressed to the Maharaja. The whole army is contemptible as a foe, but the moral effect of its location upon the frontier at this moment would be favorable to the insurgents in Mooltan, as the disaffected persist in hoping for aid from Jumboo, and the power of the Dogra is greatly overrated by them. I have refused the present of a horse tendered by Umeen Khan, but at his earnest entreaty have accepted a small mule and have sent him the price (Rs. 60) from my own purse as a portion of his *zeeafut.*

The post from Lahore has not brought me a line from that city. The Peshawur post, for the first time during several weeks, has brought

me neither letter nor *Ukbar*. I am therefore four days without intelligence from Lahore.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have written daily to Captain Lumsden. Whilst closing this the Sooltan's Vuqueel has brought me a letter from Moozuffurabad stating that the Kurnao Force has not advanced. That report says the Jumboo General, Nutteh Shah, has been slain in Gilgit by Gohr Rehman, Chief of half Gilgit, others that he has fled to Husora and is besieged there, and that the force destined for Moozuffurabad has been sent to Gilgit to aid him. These reports must be received with caution, but are too important to pass unnoted. The advance of Raja Sher Singh, upon whom the attention of the Sikh Army is fixed, gives weight to every rumor at this moment, and it appears to me that some secret agitation is going on amongst the troops in Huzara.

No. 40.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 9th June 1848.

9th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—My diary of yesterday contains all the authentic intelligence I possess of the movements of the Jumboo power. The dak of yesterday brought me a note from Major Napier describing the unsuccessful efforts to capture Bhae Maharaj Singh. I cannot forbear here recording that in February last I strongly urged to the Officiating Resident the importance of this man's immediate seizure, pointing out how inadequate was the detachment sent to effect such a purpose, and that the *Ukbars* had published the march of that detachment and its purpose a week before its arrival at the scene of action. What was easy then has proved impossible since the revolt in Mooltan and the escape of this robber, whom the army are anxious to canonize, will, I fear, strengthen the cause of the insurgents. The wide blank left without British influence since the withdrawal from Potowar of the vigorous superintendence of Captain Nicholson affords extensive advantages to the insurgents. I have hoped that this blank would have been filled up and the chain of connection repaired. But I am ignorant of the causes which have hitherto prevented this and therefore offer my opinion with some hesitation. The people of Poto-

war flock to me for protection from their Native Rulers. I issue purwanas, but there is no one on the spot to see them enforced. Gradually I fear the impression will be confirmed that our power to protect the helpless is at an end. My own presence in Huzara is some restraint upon the native functionaries here and my Kucherry exhibits three petitioners from Potowar for every one of my own people. There are in Potowar several hardy tribes of Moosulmans, who being armed could be formed into a most serviceable militia and might turn the scale in favor of Captains Edwardes or Taylor, should those officers be hard prest. I beg most respectfully to urge the importance of this subject. That the brigades pushed forward are not to be relied on. That six weeks have past since the commencement of this revolt and that up to this moment no effectual aid has been rendered to those officers, no link of connection has been effected between them and our main force. Captain Lumsden possessed almost patriarchal power amongst the Eusofzyes. His presence at this moment amongst them would be a check upon the disaffected in Peshawur. Desertion from that post would be difficult in face of the wild horsemen and armed sowars who under such an officer would harass their retreat. The whole Muhammadan population of the Punjaub look upon us as deliverers; many of them are armed and are warlike; all hate the Sikhs. Levies of these men could be raised on short notice, and were there a complete chain of British officers over the Punjaub, each with a small body guard of Muhammadans, it were difficult for any extensive conspiracy to concert its operations. Whether it were prudent to establish such links in posts not heretofore occupied by British officers were a matter for consideration. But the two posts I have above referred to might be reoccupied without any appearance of mistrust. A complaint is made to-day that the Killadar of Mansera has stopped the *Azaun* and maltreated the Moolla. I have sent for him and will put him in irons, if the fact is proved. Such conduct is sufficient to create a general rising in Huzara and would not have been attempted six weeks ago. But our influence has greatly declined.

My news from Peshawur is of the 6th and favorable. I have no very recent intelligence from Bunnoo.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 41.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 9th June 1848.

9th June 1848, closed on 10th.—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The post of to-day brought me Major Napier's notes of the 4th and 6th and news from Peshawur of the 7th. All quiet. The pay for the Regular Troops reached Huzara without accident. Sirdar Jhundur Singh writes from Deriah Khan on the left bank of the Indus, stating that he has settled the country so far and collected some of the revenue and that the army of Moolraj is 30 *koss* south of him. He also advises me that he is raising some levies. Sirdar Jhundur Singh is a spirited and good soldier, a man of excellent sense and sound judgment. When he left Huzara I considered him quite loyal, and as he has scope for his ambition on the right side, I trust he will remain so. New levies if selected with judgment will render his brigade far more efficient than at present it can be considered. I trust therefore they will be sanctioned to him. He has barely 2,000 fighting men and is liable to come in contact with a force of three times that amount. I would suggest also that a letter of commendation for his cheerfulness, zeal and conduct be addressed to him, and the assurance of honor and favor if his future career correspond with the outset. The heat and toil of his march must have been very great. There is no fresh authentic news from Cashmere. The report of the defeat of the Jumboo Troops in Gilgit is still believed. The Gooroo who was received at Hurripoor with so much ceremony and respect by the Nazim lives in the Nazim's house and never appears abroad. He is said to be a Soodhi. His name and purpose, the place whence he has come, and his destination, are all profound secrets. The Sirdar's Vuqueel professed to be ignorant of his arrival. He is deep in conference or in religious exercise with the Sirdar to the exclusion of all other business. Such at least is the report sent me from Hurripoor. He arrived about six days ago.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have written to-day to Major Napier through Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud. Two covers for the Resident are sent daily.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 42.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 10th June 1848.

10th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The reports which were so active a few days ago have failed the last few days. If they ever had foundation astonishing skill is exhibited in the correspondence. No fresh authentic intelligence has been received from Cashmere or from Gilgit, nor has the Maharaja's answer to my letter yet arrived. In Huzara all is tranquil in spite of the efforts of several instruments to get up a spirit of resistance. The Sirdar in answer to my query regarding the Baba who has arrived at Hurripoor says that he is merely the chaplain of Colonel Richpal Singh's regiment, but does not mention either his name or from whence he has arrived. I shall learn more of him in a day or two. The dak of to-day brings no news from Lahore, but the Peshawur news is of the 8th. All well.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

In hac hora inveni intelligentiam secretam inter principem Bursœ et centuriones exercitus Huzarœ, cave precor. All right!

No. 43.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 11th and 12th June 1848.

11th June—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The post of to-day brought no news from Lahore, but from Peshawur the news reaches the 9th and is favorable. I have also intelligence from Bunnoo to the 3rd when all was well, although reports of a meditated inroad of the Wuzeerees and another tribe had become strong. All is quite here ; intrigues and movements have been detected, but I am inclining to think they have proceeded from fear. My position is so strong that barring treachery the field force is at my mercy. I have no recent news from the Cashmere frontier. No force has yet advanced to Moozuffurabad, nor has the Kürnao Force, I think, yet broken camp. The reports relating to Gilgit are not contradicted. If true, the incident is seasonable. Amongst the Sikhs there is a general belief that Maharaja Dhuleep Singh has disappeared or has been translated to Mooltan. I incline to regard these prophecies as the shadows, not always of coming events, but of meditated movements. This report was circulated here the same day as that

which translated Bhae Maharaj Singh to Mooltan ; and I would venture to suggest unusual care for the safe-conduct of the young Maharaja. The Gooroo whom Sirdar Chuttur Singh received with so much distinction is confidently said to be from the Julundhur, his name Achara Singh, his family Soodhi. Great mystery is preserved respecting him, the Nazim affecting to know nothing of him, and his name being ascertained with the utmost difficulty. He is in a few days to proceed to Peshawur, and doubtless is not without his mission. I presume he is one of the priestly jaghirdars who were deprived of their lands for treason. A descriptive roll of Bhae Maharaj Singh is very desirable.

12th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—To-day the dak brings me two letters from Captain Lumsden, and a note from Peshawur of the 10th, when all was quiet. An intercepted letter from the pen of Goolam Hyder Khan recommends a massacre of the British officers, and promises aid. News from Captain Edwardes reaches the 28th. It is from Dera Ghazee Khan. A leader of 80 horse had just come over to him from the other side of the river. I can learn nothing of the movements of Raja Sher Singh's Brigade. The Sirdar Chuttur Singh, his father, assures me that he never hears of or from him. I replied that the eyes of every Sikh in the Punjaub, with one exception, are watching his movements; it was marvellous that that exception should be the Raja's father.

I have written as usual daily an official and a private cover. Yesterday I sent two private covers, one for Mr. Cocks and the other for Captain Lumsden. Mr. Cocks' note was inclosed to Mr. Skinner. Captain Lumsden's was sent through Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 44.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 12th and 13th June 1848.

12th June 1848— Sherwaun, Huzara.—I sent in my diary yesterday and a note to Captain Lumsden; I received by to-day's dak Captain Lumsden's letters of the 8th and 9th. All continues quiet.

13th June—Sherwaun.—I sent in my official letter No. 11 and a note addressed to Mr. Cocks. I received by this day's post Captain

Lumsden's note of the 10th instant. In Mr. Cocks' note I have translated the passages of an intercepted letter which led to the hint (in Latin) of a former day's journal. The Nazim has placed Moonshees at Hurripoor and at Kala Seraie to take lists of the letters which pass up to me. It is indeed easy to prevent dangerous letters falling into my hands. Jehandad Khan, Chief of Bhaingra and son of Paynda Khan, after his dismissal by me rode under cover of night with two sowars to the Nazim's quarters and had a long conference with him. His Vaqueel denies the visit. He then mounted and rode 25 *koss* or about 40 miles, without drawing rein. He is said to have received Rs. 3,000 from the Nazim, but the nature of the treaty between them I do not yet know. Other intrigues are afoot and the Sikh priests are endeavouring to rouse the fanaticism of their people by prayer and prophecy. The *Azaun* has been prohibited I am informed in three places. But the charge is as yet proved only in one case.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

My news from Peshawur is of the 11th. All quiet there.

No. 45.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 14th June 1848.

14th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—I received to-day an answer from the Maharaja Goolab Singh to my remonstrance upon the assembly of a force upon this frontier. He denies that it is an army, and declares that its present position is dictated entirely by the abundance of grass, firewood and water. At the same time the Khaganies having been applied to by the Kurnao Chief, Sher Ahmed, for aid to resist invasion have asked my instructions upon the subject. I have replied that the Maharaja has assured me no army of his is in motion or to be in motion without British permission. If therefore any army invades Kurnao it cannot be the army of our faithful friend the Maharaja, and the Kurnao Chiefs are at liberty to aid in resisting it. The two armies previously mentioned are confidently said to be camped still at the heads of the roads leading to Kurnao and to Moozuffurabad. Any advance without previous intelligence to British authorities may after the Maharaja's letter be pronounced an instance of treachery. The Kurnao Chief has

not applied to me and I am glad that he has not. Colonel Canara wrote me to-day a budget of what is considered news at Huzara. The principal item is a report that Colonel Bal Singh's Battery with Sirdar Jhundur Singh broke up and disbanded at a place called Loonmany. The post of yesterday brought me news of the 6th from Sirdar Jhundur Singh. Up to that time five men had deserted to the enemy, two sipahis and three horsemen. The corps had, however, not yet received their pay. He had reached a place marked in our maps Bahall, 20 *koss* north of Leiah, where Mooltan's corps are posted. He reports that some of the enemy had offered to come over to him. My Moonshee, a Sikh, in answer desired him on meeting the enemy to unite with him. I asked what he meant. He replied that, if the enemy came over to him, he was to receive them. He had hoped apparently that the ambiguity would escape me.

I received no letter yesterday from Peshawur. The poor people of Chuch, Qatur, Rawul Pindi, Rohtass and Ghayb still throng my Kucherry. They have lost their best friend and protector, Captain Nicholson, and it is little that I can do to aid them. The loss of a just and devoted public servant is not easily supplied.

I received to-day Captain Lumsden's note of the 11th.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 46.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 15th June 1848.

15th June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—I received to-day Captain Lumsden's note of the 12th and despatched my diary to the Resident and my usual note to that officer. The note written by Captain Lumsden on 14th *Jayt* came to hand to-day, having been sent to Captain Taylor at Bunnoo. The note written by the same gentleman on 15th *Jayt,* after being incautiously entered in the chilaun, was detained until the 16th, another private letter being substituted for it. Hence there is little doubt that some design was disappointed on 15th

Jayt, a day on which a Sikh prophet was to have appeared at Lahore. Hence also we may feel assured that the dak establishments were in the plot. It is a curious fact that whatever is to happen is to commence at Lahore. My Moosulman friends here always enquire anxiously whether anything has happened there, and are often incredulous when I assure them that all is right. The heart of the mischief is still without doubt centred there. The people laugh at the rising in Mooltan and say so long as all is well at Lahore everything will go smoothly. The most villainous reports are industriously circulated throughout the district. Last night Colonel Boodh Singh, who commands in Pukli, wrote to say that the Nazim had accused his corps and that of Bhadoor Singh of an intention to mutiny and of holding constant intercourse for the purpose. He complained bitterly of this accusation, declaring himself, his officers and men to be perfectly loyal.

The object of this ruse may be to sound the depth of my knowledge of their designs and to exculpate the Sirdar from participation in them. The Sirdar has never hinted to me a word upon the subject. To-day a letter, without seal or signature or date, purporting to be from Raja Sher Singh, was brought in answer to my repeated enquiries and expressed astonishment that whilst the eye of every Sikh was turned with intensest interest towards the Raja, his father alone was utterly indifferent to his fate, and according to his own account neither received letters from his son nor made enquiries concerning him. The armies of Jumboo still command the roads to Kurnao and to Moozuffurabad. Vast quantities of provisions are being stored at the latter place—a necessary precaution when troubles are expected or when the local force is to be increased. The attitude of Jumboo belies the assurance of the Maharaja. But he is cautious and may lose Cashmere if he attempts to advance this way. Meean Jowahir Singh and Dewan Joalla Sahai have gone to Sireenugr, information sent to Sirdar Chuttur Singh for his comfort (*tussulli*). The position of the young Prince appears to me rather critical, and I marvel that he should have dived into the stronghold of Jumboo whilst the affairs of the Punjaub are in so ricketty a state. I have news from Peshawur to the 13th. All quiet.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 47.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 16th to the 18th June 1848.

16th June 1848.—Sherwaun, Huzara.—News this evening reached me from Sirdar Jhundur Singh's camp to effect that the Cherinjee Regiment of Cavalry (officers excepted) had deserted to the insurgents as the brigade was advancing toward Leiah. I have communicated particulars in an official letter to the Resident. Up to the moment of despatch, none of the other troops had followed the example of this regiment. But there is too much reason to apprehend further defection in regiments consisting of Sikhs, as I am aware that the corps in Huzara have been curiously watching the movements of Raja Sher Singh's and Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigades as likely to determine their own.

At night one of the Hill Chiefs came to inform me that the Kardar had been endeavouring to tamper with him, saying that all the army had declared against the British and that but a few days' power was left to us. I receive these intimations with caution. But there is considerable correspondence and consistency in them.

17th June—Sherwaun.—At Peshawur all was quiet on the 15th. They have not yet heard of the defection of the Cherinjee Regiment. It is singular that that regiment should not have waited for its pay, for two months of which the Sirdar was that day sending. The stability of the remaining regiments would be more satisfactory had it occurred after the receipt of pay. The corps must be nearly four months in arrears.

18th June—Sherwaun.—I have another letter from Maharaja Goolab Singh, denying that he is moving any forces, and assuring me that none shall be moved without consent of the British, whose servant he is. The corps, so far as I can learn, still occupy the roads leading to Kurnao, and to Moozuffurabad; but it is said that Dewan Hurrie Chund had been sent to Gilgit with part of the force destined for Moozuffurabad. The prevalent report is that the Sikhs are now looking forward to the month of *Bhadoon* for the appearing of their Gooroo and the reunion of their nation. They affect to have discovered the name of Dhuleep Singh in their canons, who is to have dominion as far as Delhi. All these prophecies may be regarded as the shadows of designs and are so far worthy of attention. The preparation of my daily packet and

secret conferences with chiefs and others, who bring me intelligence, consume much of each day. The remainder is spent in Kucherry.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have been favored with the perusal of a very sensible letter from Mr. Potter, a Sikh officer, but an Englishman. He considers that the Sikh Troops are in a state of considerable excitement; that the turn of a die would send them in thousands to the standard of Moolraj; and that the Muhammadan troops in the Sikh service would scarcely have firmness to stand against a general defection. His observations agree perfectly with my own and with the accounts brought to me by others, and tally well with the opinion of other British officers in detached districts.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 48.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 20th June 1848.

20th June 1848.—Sherwaun.—A letter from Sirdar Jhundur Singh of 10th June from Tibbee on the Indus, north of Leiah, gives further particulars of the mutiny of the Cherinjee Regiment. It appears that whilst advancing upon Leiah, where Moolraj has a detachment of 500 men, he learnt that Colonel Dhara Singh's Regiment of mountaineers and the Cherinjee Cavalry were in close correspondence with the insurgents and ready to seize his, the Sirdar's, person, or to go over to the enemy. Thinking to disappoint by separating them, he told off three strong treasure parties for Pindi Ghayb, Pind Dadun Khan and Jhung, pretending that the pay of the force had arrived at those places. In the night, however, about half the Cherinjee Regiment deserted, the officers standing fast. Hearing some days afterward that they were still in the neighbourhood, and that having received only 2½ rupees each in lieu of the 80 rupees (or four months' pay) forfeited by desertion, they were half inclined to return to their duty, the Sirdar intimated to them that he could never again trust them unless they brought him the Kardar, alive or dead. Such was the state of things when the letter was

despatched. Colonel Dhara Singh left Huzara in despair declaring that he felt assured his corps would desert, as certain that they would be defeated, and that ruin then awaited them all. The Sirdar had the same presentiment which appeared to be shared by all officers of higher grade. All this I had the honor to intimate at the time of their departure. I had more confidence in the Cherinjee Regiment than in the Infantry. The men are orderly and respectable, they have more to sacrifice than the Infantry, and I have always had some of them about my person. The Infantry may have been deterred from accompanying the Cavalry in their revolt by the obvious consideration that they could effect it at their leisure and after the receipt of their long arrears. It also appears that the Sikh prophets have deferred the period for the awakening of their Gooroo to the month of August next, so that the defection of the Cavalry was premature. The whole brigade, however, when it quitted Huzara (the Artillery perhaps excepted) was quite rotten. Yet it was no worse than the rest of the Sikh Army so far as I can learn. Dhara Singh's corps is a hill regiment. The Cherinjee, although wholly Sikh, has been remarkable for its orderly conduct and respectful demeanour, and its cheerful obedience to my orders. This and the Futteh Pultun readily assisted in building the Fort of Simulkund, working as perhaps few regiments of British sipahis would have done under similar circumstances. They have been with me through difficulties and privations without murmuring and their conduct to the last was faultless.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I have strongly cautioned the Sirdar against receiving back mutineers, who return in all probability merely to recover their pay and desert at some critical moment. I have recommended him to entertain about 500 Moosulman recruits, which I hope will meet with the sanction of the Resident. It is not for me to decide as to his further movements. My opinion has been ever unfavorable to the advance of that or of Raja Sher Singh's Brigade.

No. 49.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 21st June 1848.

21st June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—The dak packet from Lahore, which arrived to-day, gives notice that a letter from Captain Lumsden

should accompany. In the receipt, however, written at the Dak Office, Lahore, for my signature, no notice of this letter occurs, nor is the letter present. If therefore it was actually written it has been arrested in the Lahore Dak Office. I earnestly beg notice of these particulars because it is barely possible that the influence of Moolraj can extend to Lahore and yet the dak establishment of Lahore has been subservient to the views of the insurgents.

In reconsidering the mutiny of the Cherinjee Regiment a few observations suggest themselves, which I humbly submit for consideration in the hope that if steps have not been taken to recall Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigade some arrangements may instantly be made to cancel the baneful effect of its presence in that Dooab. The mutiny occurred when the troops were nearly four months in arrears and were in daily expectation of receiving two months' pay. The Infantry Corps of Dhara Singh was supposed to have shared in the disaffection up to the moment of desertion. That they stood fast may be attributed, partly to their expectation of immediate payment, partly to the general impression prevalent that the awakening of the Gooroo, in other words the reunion of the Sikhs, is deferred. But had this mutiny occurred after the receipt of pay, in all probability it would have been more extensive and Captain Edwardes would have had a formidable hostile brigade upon his left flank of which he could have had no suspicion.

The mere accident of the delay in the payment of Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigade has probably saved such ruinous consequences. But should any accident happen to Captain Edwardes' Force there is too much reason to believe that the whole brigade would go over to the insurgents.

I most earnestly recommend these considerations to your attention. The whole Sikh Army is in the same state of ferment if I may believe the information received from all quarters. In the game of war some chance inevitably mingles, but it seems to me that Captain Edwardes' game just now is one in which hazard has the greater share. As a soldier I hope I may, without presumption, make these remarks.

All is at present still in Huzara. Intrigues are in operation, but are conducted with the most extraordinary circumspection.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 50.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 22nd June 1848.

22nd June 1848—Sherwaun, Huzara.—Goolam Rassool, a servant of the Peshawur Agency, arrived to-day *en route* for Cashmere, near which is his birthplace. He brought many strange reports. Major Lawrence ordered (it appears) Boodh Singh's corps to march from Attock to Hussun Ubdal, but as yet I believe it stands fast and no report of its movement has reached me. On the contrary a person recently from Attock represents it as engaged in spreading far and wide reports of the discomfiture of Captain Edwardes' force, which I trust are wholly unfounded.

I found the Kardar of this place engaged in intrigues with the zumeendars and have removed him. Sirdar Jhundur Singh assures me that none of my letters reach him. They are sent *viâ* Jelum and Pind Dadun Khan. I have written to those officers, but, as I have often observed, the complete subservience of the dak establishment to the interests of the insurgents betrays a far more powerful and proximate patron of the insurrection than Moolraj.

The state of the Rawul Pindi district is most forlorn through the oppression of the Naib Udaluttee, Sirdar Goordut Singh. What that of Chukkowal is will have been learnt from Captain Nicholson's former reports.

The number of unfortunate plaintiffs who come from the distance of 100 or 150 miles to my Kucherry in the hope (forlorn indeed) of getting redress here is a great embarrassment to the work of my own district.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 51.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 24th June 1848.

24th June—Sherwaun Huzara.—No news from Lahore the last three days. But all was well at Peshawur on the 21st. So far as my intelligence reaches the position of the Jumboo Brigades has not altered, but it is said that the remonstrances sent to the Maharaja are the cause of the inaction and there can be little doubt that he intended to have invaded Kurnao.

Huzara continues tranquil in spite of attempts to discredit our power with the people, and I feel sanguine of being able to preserve the present tranquillity, which depends little upon the presence of the Sikh troops of this Field force.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 52.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 24th June 1848.

24th June 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—A letter and messenger from Sher Ahmed, Chief of Kurnao, have just arrived stating the apprehension of that Chief that the Maharaja Goolab Singh is invading him without fault or provocation on his part and asking permission to resist and an accredited agent to be witness that he acts only in self-defence. I have replied that the Maharaja wholly disavows any intention of invasion; that I trust therefore his fears are unfounded; but that if nevertheless any army does assail his country, I shall not believe it to be the Maharaja's, and that he can make his own arrangements. I do not believe the force has advanced since my first intimation of its position, but it is stated that the enemies of the Kurnao Chief and of Sooltan Hoseyne Khan have been summoned to Cashmere.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 53.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 25th and 26th June 1848.

25th June 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—Received this day in a note from Mr. Inglis news of a victory gained by the Muhammadan levies under Captain Edwardes and the Bhawulpore force over the army of Mooltan: ordered as directed salutes to be fired at Hurripoor and in Pukli. This news will probably prevent more extensive defection.

Colonel Bhoop Singh reports nearly 4 desertions from his corps Colonel Bhadoor Singh 21 and Colonel Richpal Singh 9. I have reason, however, to think the latter has underrated his quota.

26th June 1848—Sherwaun.—Evening closed without any appearance of the post bags of Lahore and Peshawur. I think it probable that rain has fallen to the eastward. All remains quiet.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 54.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 27th June 1848.

27th June 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—The missing post bag of yesterday was brought in to-day, one of the runners having been killed in a fray upon the road, at least such is the present belief. The Resident's letter No. 280 of 23rd instant has been received in duplicate, the first copy not signed, and a note from Mr. Inglis gives a few further particulars of the late engagement.

A messenger from Sooltan Hoseyne Khan of Moozuffurabad states that the Jumboo forces have advanced each one march towards Kurnao and Moozuffurabad, the latter force being at Bara Moola and the former under the Kurnao mountain. There can be little doubt that the object of these moves is to give confidence to the Sikh troops in Huzara; but I think that the news of Captain Edwardes' success will prevent any further advance at present and check an extensive movement of Sikh troops which my information led me to expect about this time.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

P. S.—From further accounts just received there can be no doubt that the Jumboo troops are invading Kurnao—an expedient quite needless in my opinion as I could settle the matter peaceably by the interposition of British authority. I shall write again to remonstrate.

J. ABBOTT,
Assistant Resident.

No. 55.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 28th June 1848.

28th June 1848—Sherwaun.—I have recorded under yesterday's date the report of the advance of the two columns of the Jumboo army to Bara Moola and to the foot of the Kurnao Mountains respectively. The latter column is said to be provided with an immense number of torches to enable it to thread the passes by night. It is well known that Maharaja Goolab Singh has long been bent upon the establishment of a fortress in Kurnao and the reduction of that province from a tributary to a dependent section of his kingdom. This is natural enough, but it is contrary to the terms of the settlement made by Mr. Vans Agnew so far as I can inform myself of them, and it appears to me contrary to sound policy to permit at this time such an usurpation. First, because the complete subjection of Kurnao will encourage all those hopes, which have been so industriously circulated amongst the insurgents in Mooltan and their friends in the Sikh army, of aid from Jumboo, and, secondly, because so long as Kurnao is free the British possess almost unlimited power over the fortunes of Cashmere.

The intelligence comes from the best possible source—Sooltan Hoseyne Khan. It is however in direct contradiction of the Maharaja's repeated protests to the Resident and to myself. It is therefore impossible that the purpose can be honest, and when compared with the feeling prevalent throughout the Sikh army, that the Maharaja Goolab Singh is marching to their aid and is the chief instigator of the Mooltan rebellion, little doubt can remain that the advance of these columns is designed to encourage the spirit of insurrection in the Sikh army, and which my intelligence led me to expect to betray itself about this time upon an extensive scale. Captain Edwardes' brilliant success will probably obstruct, if not prevent, this movement. But it is doubtful whether the Maharaja will abandon his invasion of Kurnao.

The whole of the hill tribes abhor his dominion and await but the slightest encouragement from me to band together for his destruction and were he even supported by the Sikh forces in Huzara, I have little doubt that, with timely permission to act, I could render his tenure of Cashmere very precarious. But there is no probability that

so wily an intriguer will ever betray himself into any step that could give plea for our direct coercion, and Kurnao unsupported by the other hill provinces could not long resist his arms.

I have just written to His Highness reminding him of his protestations to the Resident and to myself and enquiring in what light I am to consider his violation of them; begging him, if he has anything to arrange with the Kurnao Province, to trust the arbitration to my hands, and to withdraw forces which are alarming the hill tribes and leading to suspicions unfavourable to friendship.

I do not detail the reports greedily received in these parts of his direct, though covert, aid to the Mooltanees; such conduct were utterly inconsistent with his character, but the belief in his friendly intentions towards the insurgents could scarcely be so universal and so strong without encouragement received from him.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 56.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 30th June 1848.

30th June 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—A note from Mr. Inglis was received by to-day's post. On the 27th all was quiet in Peshawur. No fresh news has been received from the frontier; but the alarm of Sooltan Hoseyne Khan is great and he has begged an asylum in Huzara of which I have assured him, should he be more nearly threatened. The Mooltan news will, I think, render the Maharaja Goolab Singh more ready to listen to my suggestions.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 57.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 2nd July 1848.

2nd July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—Matters remain as before upon the Cashmere frontier, so far as my intelligence reaches. The alarm is great, and it is impossible for me to recommend those not immediately threatened, to take part with the invaded, or rather with those

who expect invasion, and without encouragement from me Sher Ahmed's friends will, I fear, prove lukewarm. The cause of Moolraj is not despaired of by the Huzara Field Force, and unless he gives way to despair, he may receive succour.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 58.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 4th and 5th July 1848.

4th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—My accounts of the Field Force in Pukli are very unsatisfactory. The salute in honor of the victory of the 18th ultimo was scarcely fired before plots were set afoot to seduce the Sipahees of Colonels Bhoop and Bhadoor Singh's Corps from their allegiance. Colonel Bhoop Singh confined two of the ringleaders, but they decamped in company with the sentinel who guarded them during the night. Colonel Canara has written to his Commandant to put four more in irons and send them to Hurripoor. The development of this mutinous spirit seems to me rather desirable than otherwise; its concealment appears to me the danger. Six or seven more men have deserted from Colonel Bhoop Singh's Corps during this week. The garrisons in Huzara being commanded generally by Sikh officers wink at their flight, notwithstanding the most stringent orders. Colonel Bhoop Singh is an officer distinguished for brave conduct and justice. He is a nephew of Khaun Singh, Maun. I fear from his deportment that he is disheartened. I have always hoped in his loyalty and have no reason to doubt it. If free from implication any assurance of favor might be well bestowed upon him.

5th July—Sherwaun—Letters from Peshawur of the 3rd announce all quiet. Colonel Boodh Singh's Corps, which, despite its order to march, was dallying at Attock, has marched since receipt of the victory on the Chenab. His excuse for delay is frivolous. He has also discovered, since the news aforesaid, that his jaghir is not, as he supposed resumed. Matters remain in the same state in Pukli; at Hurripoor, there is less excitement.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 59.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th July 1848

6th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—The excitement in the Pukli Field Force, consisting of the regiment of Bhoop Singh, a wing of Bhadoor Singh's Corps, a troop of the Churunjeit, another of—Missal and four guns of Colonel Canara's Artillery, continues unabated. If confined to this Field Force it is of little consequence, but the cause being of a nature to affect the whole Sikh army, there is some reason to think it more extensive. In fact the Sikh army is alarmed at the extent of its implication in the Mooltan rebellion, and all of superior rank similarly implicated are naturally anxious to foment this fear and to stir up the army to another effort for the service of their puppet, Moolraj. If other branches of the army are as ripe for the undertaking as the Pukli Force, an immediate movement may be expected. But I have no news from Peshawur which can justify the supposition of excitement prevailing there, although the Sikhs in Chuch, previous to the late victory, were expecting a movement from that quarter.

Colonel Bhoop Singh sent me, at my request, a confidential servant yesterday. But the man gave me no authentic intelligence, and the impression he left upon my mind is that Colonel Bhoop Singh, who was at first so opposed to the wild schemes of his soldiers, must have become alarmed and less earnest in his opposition. I have done my best to reassure him.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 60.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th July 1848.

6h July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have no fresh authentic intelligence to record this day. Report says that the Jumboo army has retired a march from the Kurnao frontier since the despatch of my remonstrance to the Maharaja. In Pukli the same strong excitement prevails amongst the troops, and two regiments are, I believe, prepared to march upon Mooltan, if any check happen to our arms. This naturally induces me to survey the position of our forces in Mooltan. Captain Edwardes

with an indisciplined army rated at 18,000, faces the beaten army of Moolraj, which is safe under the walls of the fortress, and the steamers ought to give him command of the river. But, on the other hand, the brigades of Raja Sher Singh and of Sirdar Jhundur Singh are now almost in contact with this army, and it is impossible to say which side either or both will take in the contest, especially should the late disclosures have extensively implicated the Sikh aristocracy. I have ever entertained high hopes of Sirdar Jhundur Singh. But under the supposition above noted, the cause would become national and no dependence would be placed upon any Sikh. The Moosulmaun troops raised by Sirdar Jhundur Singh and by Dewan Jowahir Mull Dutt are wholly subservient to those officers. I have reason to know that those officers are subservient to the will of Sirdar Chuttur Singh. Thus the whole Sikh force now in motion is controlled by the latter officer, a bosom friend of Maharaja Goolab Singh, who has generally the credit with the insurgents of being the instigator of this rebellion. If the two advanced brigades go over to the enemy the whole Sikh army will follow their lead. Against this chance, which appears to me a probable one, I trust precautions have been taken. Sirdar Chuttur Singh obtained leave last night upon plea of severe and dangerous illness to change air by a visit to Baug Bootur, his residence in Kullur. I was not aware in granting it of all I have since discovered. It is even reported by some that he is only feigning illness. He has preserved a profound silence as to the state of the brigade in Pukli which cannot be unknown to him. I offer these remarks with much submission. They seem to me too important to be withheld.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The Jumboo Brigades, though withdrawn one short march to satisfy the British Government, still threaten this frontier.

No. 61.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th July 1848.

7th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have this day received the Resident's letter No. 303 of the 3rd instant, to which I hope to reply

to-morrow. I have despatched my diary of the 6th as usual, which treats of matter that appears to me of much importance. A note to Mr. Cocks accompanies and a note to Mr. Inglis is sent as usual through the Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud. The Pukli Brigade is in the same state of excitement, talking confidently of an immediate march to Mooltan. I trust precautions have been taken against the consequences of either Raja Sher Singh or Sirdar Jhundur Singh declaring for Moolraj, as their example would be followed by the whole Sikh army, who are far from giving up the cause of the Dewan, which, so far as I can judge, seems to have become national. I have the best possible reason to think Sirdar Chuttur Singh's health as good as it has ever been for some years past, and that his wish to leave Huzara has no reference whatever to the state of his health. I yesterday wrote begging him to remain.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I hope that as a soldier I may be permitted to observe that any operations against the fort of Mooltan upon a scale insufficient to insure success, even supposing a large part of the Sikh army to march to its relief, are likely to be attended with disaster. The fort is no contemptible place and requires a very powerful siege train as well as a considerable body of staunch and disciplined troops for its investment.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 62.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th and 8th July 1848.

7th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—With reference to the contents of my diary of the 6th I am happy to find that Captain Edwardes has ordered back Sirdar Jhundur Singh's Brigade to Leiah to the manifest mortification of that Chief and the probable disarrangement of the immediate plans of the conspirators. I cannot but think that an interval between the Sirdar's Brigade and Captain Edwardes' force is wholesome.

8th July 1848—Sherwaun.—I received to-day Mr. Inglis' note announcing Captain Edwardes' second victory and have ordered salutes of 21 guns at Hurripoor, Hussun Ubdal and in Pukli. There is great dismay amongst the Sikhs of this neighbourhood. The seventh Rissala of the Churunjeit regiment is in much alarm owing to a report that the houses of men of that corps are to be destroyed. I have written to reassure them. The Rissala has as yet evinced no symptoms of disaffection. But it may be the policy of those concerned in the conspiracy to contrive that the houses of the innocent be molested to throw them into the arms of the insurgents, unless much care is observed.

My news from Peshawur is of the 8th. All was then quiet.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 63.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 11th July 1848.

11th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—By advice from Major Lawrence in Peshawur, I learn that the Sikh Gooroo, Achara Singh, whom Sirdar Chuttur Singh assured me he had not seen, and who had, he said, left Hurripoor for Lahore, was sent by the Sirdar secretly across the Gundgurh mountain to Peshawur, where he now is. The Gooroo allows that he received two visits from the Sirdar, and I have assurance that he was treated by the Sirdar with extraordinary honor. It is seldom that the extreme caution of Sirdar Chuttur Singh lays him open to such direct proof of intrigue: but his intrigues are not the less certain.

In a letter from one of the Jumboo ministers to Sirdar Chuttur Singh, the Sirdar is begged to be of good cheer, for that Meean Jowahir Singh had that day departed in company with Dewan Joalla Sahaie for Sirinugur. The young Prince, it is well known, is an object of extreme fear to Maharaja Goolab Singh and his heir-apparent, and, as such, must be held in some awe by Sirdar Chuttur Singh, whose strength is in his intimate friendship with the Maharaja, and whose plans, supposing him to be engaged in this conspiracy, might be disappointed

by the freedom of Meean Jowahir Singh. If the young Prince is not at perfect freedom, *i.e.*, if he is in Cashmere, his safety may be worthy of attention. He is a favorite in his uncle's army and has the sympathies of all the Dogra tribe in his favor.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 64.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 12th July 1848.

12th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have received Mr. Inglis' letter of the 9th by to-day's post. No post is in from Peshawur. An intelligent correspondent in Raja Sher Singh's camp writes me that the Brigade of that Raja has from the first been bent upon joining the insurgents, and that none but Sikhs have been admitted to their consultation. The value of this evidence will be best tested at Lahore by comparison with other testimony. From a letter of Sirdar Jhundur Singh just received I gather that he has not marched back to Leiah, according to Captain Edwardes' instructions, and as he assured me he would do, but is lingering for further advice at Kurgura, the position of which I cannot make out. There are, I think, strong reasons why his force should be separated by the greatest possible interval from Mooltan. He tells me he has sent all the Huzara people, according to Captain Edwardes' orders, to that officer's camp. This seems to me a wise arrangement. I would earnestly advocate the despatch of a powerful force of staunch troops with the largest possible number of small mortars. The cause of Moolraj is not despaired of yet by the Sikh army.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

P.S.—By giving the day duties to the Sipahis, the night duties to the Europeans; by digging deep the trenches in that light soil, and roofing them over with palm branches, much of the ill-effects of exposure might be saved, and the interval between the city and the fort is trifling.

No. 65.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 12th July 1848.

12th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—During the last few days great efforts have been made by the Sikh authorities to detach the Huzara chiefs from their devotion to British interests, and I fear not without success. Three of the principal and several of the lesser chiefs appear to have been bought over; amongst the former, unless my intelligence deceives me, is Sooltan Hoseyne Khan, who refused effectual aid by us had little option of refusing the promises of Sirdar Chuttur Singh. It is difficult to conceive why this chief should be secured, if the Jumboo armies intend not to quit their own frontier. His co-operation is useful only for this purpose, yet it were hard to suppose so cautious a man as the Maharaja capable of such a design.

The other chiefs have acted according to human nature. They see that we cannot spare a single regiment to avenge the blood of a British Governor shed in the very face of our armies, and they argue either that our Governors are lightly regarded by their Government or that the Government is powerless to avenge them. I would that my remonstrances could avail to secure the instant assembly of a powerful force and siege train around Mooltan. It is impossible to avoid the impression that otherwise another and vigorous effort will be made for its relief. There are 15,000 troops in its neighbourhood who may go over to his cause to-morrow: and I can answer for it that several of the regiments in this quarter would instantly march to join them.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 66.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 14th July 1848.

14th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have no fresh intelligence to record. The wing of Bhadoor Singh's corps in Pukli is actually beginning to talk of carrying into effect my repeated orders to roof in their barracks for the rainy season, which ought to have set in fourteen days ago and is very severe in Pukli. If they actually complete this work I shall suppose they have given up for the present their purpose of marching

southward. I have no late intelligence from the Cashmere frontier and unfortunately can no longer depend as before upon that supplied by the Sooltan. I have no reason to suppose there has been any advance. But the Maharaja now informs me through his Vuqueel that he did intend to invade Kurnao to punish its chief for having ravished a Khuttrani, but that he had ordered his troops to desist in consideration of the Resident's wishes. Greater consistency would tend to confidence.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

All was quiet in Peshawur on the 11th.

No. 67.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 14th July 1848.

14th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have just received the Resident's letter No. 322 of 11th July.

My diaries will have shown that the ferment in the Pukli Brigade has subsided to outward appearance since news of Captain Edwardes' second victory. It had never been my intention to suffer the mutineers to leave the country peaceably. But I have forborne to touch upon the subject because the most perfect secrecy is necessary to successful opposition.

With a view to allay distrust on the part of the Sikh regiments, I have kept with me the company that had hitherto formed my body-guard, although there was much difficulty in accommodating them, and did not part with the sowars of the Churunjeit Regiment until they themselves represented that their horses would perish exposed to the heavy rain of the mountain and in absence of proper forage.

The worst part of the mutinous disposition of regiments is that it is rarely if ever reported by the officers; that the Nazim who has more ample means of information than I possess denies knowledge of it at seasons when it has become notorious, and that to this moment I have never received from him a hint that could tend to the security of the present Government. I have often asked myself anxiously whether I were not wronging him by distrust; but I confess I find it impossible

to form from the premises which are undoubted any different deduction. If, however, he has never been directly implicated, he will probably shape his course according to the set of the wind and remain a pillar of the State. If he has been loyal throughout he has wronged himself deeply by the veil of mystery and insincerity in which he has involved his conduct.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 68.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 16th July 1848.

16th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—No fresh occurrences have to be noticed: my news from the Cashmere frontier is less trustworthy than heretofore from causes already noticed. In Pukli there is less open excitement, but the disposition remains as before, awaiting only opportunity. The two Sipahis despatched from Huzara to escort the Gooroo, Bhaee Achara Singh, to Peshawur arrived to-day as prisoners. They now deny their having been the Gooroo's companions, though they acknowledge that they quitted Huzara at the same time, the one by permission of Sirdar Chuttur Singh, the other by that of Colonel Richpal Singh, on pretence of visiting brothers. Both are Sikhs. Neither the Sirdar nor the Colonel had authority to grant this leave without my sanction, and it will be remembered that Sirdar Chuttur Singh pretended not to know of Bhaee Achara Singh's presence in Huzara, where he had paid him marked attention, and that he afterwards informed me that the Bhaee had gone back to Lahore. Doubtless he supposed that by the time this deviation from truth could be detected, it would be too late to notice it. I have written to beg an explanation of him. The Bhaee must have reached Peshawur just about the date (15 *Harrh*) fixed by the Sikh army for a rising, disappointed apparently by news of Captain Edwardes' victories.

All was quiet in Peshawur on the 14th.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 69.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 16th July 1848.

16th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have no fresh occurrences to record, and the inflamed state of my eyes prevents me from attempting as I had purposed, to touch upon the subjects mentioned in the Resident's letter of the 11th instant. I cannot, however, defer to observe that Sirdar Jhundur Singh seems to have expected his recall to Lahore, as he halted upon the Chenab instead of obeying Captain Edwardes' order to return to Leiah, as he assured me he would. I am aware that it is a great object of the conspiracy to have Sikh troops at or near the capital and to see the British garrison diminished; that Dhara Singh's Corps is not to be depended upon; and that the cause of Moolraj is not yet abandoned, either by those who set him up, or by the army who consider him their champion. From the extreme anxiety of all our well-wishers that Lahore should be strongly guarded, and from the Sikh prophecies all hinging upon the capture of that city, I gather that from the first to the present moment it has been the rallying point of their designs. It must also be borne in mind that owing to the extreme facility with which Sikh troops move, upwards of 15 regiments with their artillery could be concentrated upon Lahore within a single week. I trust therefore that the garrison is not to be diminished, and that the presence of Sikh regiments is not to be encouraged.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 70.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 17th July 1848.

17th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have no very authentic intelligence from the Cashmere border. Report says that regiments of Jumboo troops are marching from Cashmere to Jumboo—a report that should not be left in doubt as it would denote a change in the tactics of the conspirators, and that Lahore not Mooltan is now their object. That another and vigorous effort will be made by them, if the smallest avenue is left for hope, cannot be doubted; and Sirdar Jhundur Singh seems to have been aware that he was to be recalled

to Lahore, for he halted upon the Chenab many days after receiving Captain Edwardes' order to return to Leiah. His brigade would certainly join any hopeful rising of the conspirators, if it is not much belied. One of his regiments, Dhara Singh's, is formed of Jumboo men, subservient to Maharaja Goolab Singh.

I am the rather inclined to think this change of plans in operation, because the principal chiefs in Huzara have become alarmed and are anxious to smother up their late arrangements to forsake or betray me.

I have no news to-day from Peshawur.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 71.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 18th July 1848.

18th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—The Shub Rooz (*sic*) festival has been kept up the last three nights by the Muhammadans of my guard, and the zumeendars in attendance, with much merriment. I find my impression that Sirdar Jhundur Singh had received news of his purposed recall to Lahore, many days before he received the order, verified by fact. But although he reports his recall and sends me copy of the order he is profoundly silent as to the intelligence which preceded it. All his real correspondence with Sirdar Chuttur Singh is carried on through confidential messengers, to my certain knowledge. The letters sent by post are purposely written to convey false impressions. This is the system throughout. The members of the Durbar trust none of their really important orders to the dak. Private messengers are constantly passing to and fro between them and the officers of the army. A dak is maintained by the Sirdar, Chuttur Singh, with Cashmere, although he utterly denies it. Messengers are constantly passing from Cashmere to Peshawur, if the testimony of hundreds is to be believed. The extreme quietude of the Peshawur force amid all the excitement of other branches of the army is a striking proof that the rebellion is no military movement, no chance complication of disorders, but a system wielded by one master hand; for any premature symptom of disaffection there might suffice to ruin the cause of the conspirators, by arraying the

Muhammadan population against them. Nevertheless, I have undoubted intelligence that the forces on this side of the Indus have ever calculated upon being joined by those in Peshawur. Another curious feature is that the only Native officer who has ever given a hint of the excitement of his men is one who, knowing that he was suspected, has endeavoured to stave off personal danger by reporting a partial mutiny in a brigade rotten throughout.

I have news from Peshawur to the 16th ; all was then quiet. There is to-day some appearance of rain.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

The presence of a steamer in the Jelum at the city of that name would place in our power all the boats of one of the grand fosses which separate the Sikh army from Mooltan. Artillery can scarcely cross higher up. But the boats should be seized, if alarm is given, as high as the hill fort of Mungla, or eighteen miles higher up. At Mungla there are several large boats, but no ferry for artillery above it. Between Jelum and Pind Dadun Khan the crossings are difficult owing to the number of channels. Jelum itself is the best ferry. Two steamers were better than one.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 72.—Journal of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 19th and 20th July 1848.

19th July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—After despatching my official correspondence I held kucherry as usual. I forbear to notice the impressions made upon my mind by symptoms almost too slight to be defined, because I gather that evidence is necessary for all reported in a journal. Whereas hitherto I have supposed it especially designed as a vehicle for those reports, rumors and impressions, which are all that the Sikhs ever afford of evidence of any purposed movement, which have never yet been falsified by the event, but which yet do not separately deserve a formal official report.

20th July 1848.—After the despatch of my official correspondence I held kucherry as usual until sunset. Received a letter from Captain Nicholson, dated 18th, when all was quiet at Peshawur; there is no news either from Cashmere or from any other quarter that can be relied upon as authentic.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 73.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 21st and 22nd July 1848.

21st July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—After despatching my official correspondence I held kucherry until sunset. The Vuqueel of Maharaja Goolab Singh waited upon me with a letter from that Prince, in which he allows that the armies assembled on this frontier were for the reduction of Kurnao. The Vuqueel on the part of his master consulted me about this Hill District, saying that the Raja had not come in upon summons. I replied that he had sent his son, who was long in attendance upon the Maharaja's Dewan in Huzara, but that when he perceived that the Maharaja had failed to fulfil his covenant with Sooltan Hoseyne Khan, he kept aloft fearing treachery. The Vuqueel stated on the part of his master that the Kurnao Chief, Raja Shere Ahmed, had carried off a large drove of cattle. I replied that I had heard that he was not implicated in the robbery, and was willing to abide any judgment if it should be proved against him; that I thought the matter had better be investigated, ere he was punished for what was said to be another's crime. The Vuqueel enquired what were my views regarding Kurnao; stated that the Maharaja was desirous of re-establishing the fort there. I said that I thought it would be better to give Shere Ahmed a trial upon the settlement arranged by Mr. Vans Agnew; that to the best of my remembrance this left Kurnao in the state of a tributary province, without garrison, yielding without expense one-fifth revenue to Government; that the expenses of a garrison would consume double the revenue, and that I felt assured Shere Ahmed would abide by a settlement made by me, if the Maharaja desired such. He said that the Maharaja complained that the guilty hearts of Shere Ahmed and Sooltan Hoseyne Khan were always leading them to apprehend

invasion, and to complain to the British Government. I replied that the lion saw the lamb trembling in his presence, and made exactly the same complaint of him; that the chiefs in question had made no complaint, until armies were actually fitted out against them.

22nd July 1848.—Held kucherry as on the previous day. Sirdar Chuttur Singh, finding that I had discovered the presence in his Durbar of a messenger named Gunda Mull from Jumboo, thought it necessary to inform me to-day that the man had merely come to see his son and had been dismissed that day on his return to Jumboo. He is only one of many messengers from that Court; but generally they are disguised and remain only to receive answers. There were nothing very extraordinary in this intercourse with a bosom friend, were it not solemnly denied by the Sirdar.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 74.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 23rd and 24th July 1848.

23rd July 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—After divine service held kucherry until sunset. We have no authentic intelligence to-day from any quarter, although there are many reports. As one of the latter speaks of part, if not all, the Pukli Brigade awaiting only their pay to march towards Mooltan, I have begged the Nazim not to disburse it at present.

24th July—Sherwaun.—After the despatch of official correspondence held kucherry until sunset. No authentic intelligence, but the old report of a design to *chupow* Captain Edwardes' camp on the night of the 15th *Sawun* still prevails and has been actively circulated at Pukli by a messenger purporting to have come from Mooltan. The Moozuffurabad force speaks of being immediately ordered to Jumboo when relieved from Cashmere. The rains have not set in.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 75.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 25th and 26th July 1848.

25th July 1848—Sherwaun.—After despatch of my official correspondence held kucherry until sunset. Received a letter from Sirdar Jhundur Singh announcing his march towards Lahore. The Dewan Adjoodhia Persaud had previously reported that he had marched to Mooltan. The rumours referred to in former passages of my Journal are increasing in distinctness. There is certainly a very general impression amongst the Sikh force in Huzara and Qatur that a struggle for their old kingdom is at hand. I have however no authentic intelligence of facts. Sooltan Hoseyne Khan has ceased to supply me with news. My own messengers report that the Moozuffurabad force was suddenly ordered to Jumboo and again as suddenly crdered to stand fast. A fortnight must, I think, exhibit the real nature of the game which the Sikhs are playing.

26th July—Sherwaun.—After the despatch of my official correspondence I held kucherry until evening. On the assurance of several of the Mulliks of Huzara I have delivered from their imprisonment the four Mulliks of Simulkund who gave themselves up for trial. They had been nearly a year imprisoned. But as they do not prove to have been the principals in the Bukha murder and cannot be proved to have had any actual share in that cruel business, I have deemed it better to pardon freely their past misdemeanours, whilst I retain this power, than to leave them as tools of disorder in the hands of the Sikhs. Their release has given great satisfaction to all parties.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 76.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 28th and 29th July 1848.

28th July 1848.—Sherwaun.—After the despatch of my official correspondence held kucherry until sunset. A great effort is in operation to persuade the troops in Huzara and Qatur to join the insurrection. The most dismal reports are in circulation. The capture of two European officers is announced and the zumeendars are assured that the British have only eight days left of authority in this country. Accounts from Peshawur are favorable. I have no authentic news from Cashmere.

29th July 1848—Sherwaun.—After the despatch of my official correspondence held kucherry until sunset. The ferment in the Pukli Sikh Brigade continues. Although all this may as heretofore end in the troops remaining quiet, yet as there is a strong desire on the part of the Sikh army to march to the rescue, I trust precautions are not neglected to prevent their possible junction.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 77.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 29th and 30th July 1848.

29th July, or 18th Sawun, 1848—Sherwaun.—I have previously intimated that the 15th *Sawun* was appointed, according to my intelligence, for some treacherous exploit at Mooltan. So certain do the Sikhs feel of its success that they have assumed in Huzara the tone of conquerors, and so far as I can learn are prepared to follow up the blow by marching in force either upon Mooltan or Lahore, the latter seems the more probable. The regiments that will most probably move from this neighbourhood, should the news be such as they anticipate, are Bhoop Singh's, Boodh Singh's, Bhadoor Singh's, Pertaub Singh's, and the four guns in Pukli with Syud Mahomed Shah, Nooroodeen's heavy battery, Sirdar Mhaitab Singh's horse. But unless I mistake, all the Bunnoo force would join; whether all or any of the Peshawur force would move seems doubtful. The Sikh soldiery here expect it, and some of them lately demanding of Bhoop Singh to be marched off instantly were answered that they should move so soon as the Peshawur force moved. This however might be a put off. My intelligence does not admit of judicial proof. But it is reported to me that Bhoop Singh has since called the disaffected of his regiment around him and told them that he is now ready to lead them to Mooltan. Syud Mahomed Shah is by the same authority reported to have assembled his golundauze on Saturday last, and to have assured them that on intelligence of Moolraj's expected victory each man should have a bracelet, and that they should march at once to Mooltan. Sirdar Chuttur Singh, according to another authority, which has never yet deceived me, being appealed to by some zumeendars whose sugarcane his horsemen

had trampled, replied: "You are the servants of the English. If it please the seven Gooroos, in eight days I will break your necks." The Kardar of Qatur on receiving one of my purwanas from another party is reported by him to have replied. "Very well, to-day it is as the Sahibs will, but in eight days we will deprive you of all they have granted." If Captain Edwardes received my warning in good time, I trust all these expectations will be frustrated. But according to my best intelligence troops are marching from Cashmere to Jumboo, I presume to threaten Lahore or at least to give confidence to any who may be disposed to attack that city. A secret correspondence is said to be maintained between Sirdar Chuttur Singh, Raja Ali Gohr Khan, Gukha, and Maharaja Goolab Singh, and Sirdar Chuttur Singh is said to have just received from the Ruler of Cabul a negative to his urgent entreaty to aid the Sikh cause, which else must come to shame. The impression amongst our well-wishers is general, that any attempt of the Sikhs will be directed against Lahore, where they are confident of co-operation from the garrison of the citadel.

A report was implicitly believed a month ago at Moozuffurabad, but seemed to me too improbable for record, that Maharaja Goolab Singh had paid up and dismissed three battalions, privately instructing them to go and take service at Mooltan. This report gained some little strength, when the Maharaja's own servants informed me that he had heard some of the Jumboo troops had deserted and gone to Mooltan. The present is a season for the utmost vigilance, and the faintest and most improbable reports are often the most true. On the 1st August it will probably be known here whether the insurrection is to assume an immediate head or to be quiet until a fresh opportunity—I shall then know how far the chiefs of Huzara have been tampered with. My impression is that the corruption is extensive and that I shall be in a minority.

If the precautions I have suggested have been taken, any move of the nature apprehended may be entirely frustrated. How important it is to hasten the fall of Mooltan I think I need scarcely prove. Until British colors wave above its bastions, the Sikh army will be ready to succour it. I formerly suggested the supply of a large number of the smallest sized mortars as calculated to bring the operations to a close in a few

days. I do not know whether these form part of the siege train, but I know of no ordnance that can for the particular exigency supply their place.

30th July 1848—Sherwaun.—I have little to add to the reports of yesterday which I have inserted reluctantly at the express command of the Resident. In insurrections of this nature where it is the object of the Chiefs to gain everything, but to state nothing, and especially amongst the Sikh nation, the most wily and cautious race on earth, little more than reports are ever procurable previous to the general demonstration. But when reports collected by persons who have no intercourse with one another, at distant quarters, agree exactly in their general bearing, it seems to me insane to neglect them. I cannot trust my authority just now to paper, with so strong a chance as there appears of the letter being intercepted. I have favorable news from Cabul of the 28th.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

I write daily to the Resident.

No. 78.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 1st August 1848.

1st August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—Last night intelligence was sent me from Pukli that the infantry of that force had positively determined to march for Lahore this morning before daybreak. The news did not reach me until 9 A.M., and I immediately made such arrangements as seemed feasible. I await with some anxiety a confirmation or denial of these tidings, which cannot reach me until evening. At the same time I received intelligence from Hurripoor that the force there and in Qatur is expecting an immediate march to Lahore, and has received assurance of support from the Bunnoo force. By the same bearer came a report of a fresh victory won by Captain Edwardes on the 15th. If the latter be confirmed, it may yet prevent the march of this force. Nevertheless, precautions are desirable against the chance of their making a *dour* upon Lahore: for it is said that the whole Sikh population will join them. From Cashmere report speaks of the march of five regiments for Jumboo to act, I imagine, as an encouragement to the Sikhs. I wrote yesterday all the current reports upon this subject

But it is probable that the daks will be molested if the movement is quite determined upon.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Lahore will not be secure unless the citadel is completely in our possession. The movement if it be carried out is National.

No. 79.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 2nd August 1848.

2nd August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—The news of yesterday is confirmed by several messengers from different persons. The Pukli force is preparing to march southward: it is generally believed to Lahore. News from Hurripoor is of the same complexion. It cannot confidently be asserted which regiments are preparing to move. But the belief is general that all in Huzara, Qatur, and Bunnoo are of the number, and that all has been arranged by Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who certainly sent General Sooltan Maimood to Hussun Ubdal on the 28th ultimo to hold a secret conference with Colonel Nooroodeen of the artillery there, and allowed Colonel Nooroodeen to quit his post and remain a day or two at Hurripoor without informing me. It is also to be observed, as I have frequently before observed, that, up to this moment, the Sirdar has not given me a hint that could lead me to suppose any corps in Hurripoor or Qatur to be otherwise than loyal, although it is utterly impossible that he would have been ignorant of proceedings notorious to the whole country. If the news we have received of Captain Edwardes' third victory be confirmed, it may possibly cause some delay. Nevertheless, I hope no precaution will be neglected, as the troops count upon being joined by the whole Sikh population, and there must almost certainly be treason in the citadel, which will not be secure unless garrisoned by British troops. In Pukli, the troops have sold their stores, broken up their bazar, and got ready by my last notice to move at a moment's notice. They are probably now in motion. It appears that the detention of pay, which for some days I deemed expedient, has been made a cause of discontent by the conspirators, and accordingly when I wrote the Sirdar to issue the pay my letter was detained here by his Vuqueel

for 24 hours, and probably would not have been sent for several days had I not discovered the artifice.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

All was quiet in Peshawur on the 30th.

P.S.—Whilst closing this I have heard again twice from Pukli. In consequence of the unwillingness of the golundauze to join in the march, but more perhaps from learning the reception awaiting them, the infantry is said to have deferred its movements for a few days. This intelligence I cannot certainly rely upon, and it will not throw me off my guard.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 80.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 3rd August 1848.

3rd August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—Intelligence from various quarters confirms the previous information recorded. The Gahndia (Pukli) Brigade was actually about to march on the morning of the 1st when the movement was countermanded, I imagine, in consequence of information sent to Colonel Bhoop Singh from the people about me. The Colonel sent a Jemadar to me yesterday to ascertain the extent of my intelligence. This man confessed to one of my people that the force had actually arranged to march on that morning, but said that Colonel Bhoop Singh had put the ringleaders into irons. It is believed that they will actually move to-morrow, but intelligence is difficult of access, as the Sikhs have stopped the road. Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who has not to this moment given me a hint of the state of this brigade, has been three days and nights shut up with General Maimood and Colonel Richpal Singh in closest conference. It is said that he has written to Raja Sher Singh to delay no longer in declaring for Moolraj, and that the whole Huzara and Qatur forces are ready for a *dour* upon Lahore. This is what the soldiery themselves say. It appears so confirmed by all that is going on around, that I cannot leave it unrecorded. The intelligence reaches me through various channels, and agrees perfectly in all its parts. I have just heard from Huzara that the decision of the Pukli Brigade was made upon the arrival of an emissary from *Lahore*. The troops look confidently to being joined by the whole of the Sikh population. I

have written and will write daily to the Residency. General Sooltan Maimood, at Hurripoor, has been writing to General Elahi Buksh at Peshawur, it is supposed to arrange matters. Troops have marched from Cashmere in the direction of Bhimbur and not, I believe, to Jumboo. It is said that Maharaja Goolab Singh is casting a large number of cannon. This intelligence comes from Cashmere, and may be worth further enquiry. I cannot vouch for it.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 81.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, without date, received 8th August 1848.

I WRITE daily to the Residency. All yesterday I was awaiting tidings from Pukli. But Colonel Bhoop Singh has stopped the road, and all I could learn was that the Brigade is still at Gahndia with all the cattle collected together in the cantonment and everything packed ready for a march. As I imagine that owing to the cautious system of the Sirdars (who dare not themselves appear in the insurrection until at least there is certainty of success) the march of the Gahndia Brigade is to be the leaven which is to raise the whole Sikh army, the position of that brigade in chancery may for the present disappoint their rising. Ammunition has been secretly served out to all the troops in Huzara. Their pay is also said to have been sent them secretly before my order for its disbursal arrived, and the Nazim is reported to have sent parties of his own soldiers to strengthen the garrisons of Torbaila and Barookote, without my permission and indeed contrary to my order. The belief that Captain Edwardes was victorious on the 15th of *Sawun*, the day on which they had calculated upon his defeat, and that his victory was owing to his having ordered Raja Sher Singh's camp to separate from his own previous to the battle has become general, and has for the present abated their boasting. Meanwhile no efforts are neglected by Sirdar Chuttur Singh to gain over the people or rather Chiefs of Huzara. His agents are going to and fro daily, and as he holds the purse, he has a formidable advantage. Five guns were fired at Pukli this morning, but I have no intelligence since from the cantonment there. I learn by to-day's dak that the Huzara letter bag of the 28th had not reached

Lahore on the 31st. It contained, if I mistake not, an account of the present agitation. As I have before observed, although there was undoubtedly an intention on the part of the Huzara and Qatur troops to march upon Lahore, it is impossible to calculate upon its fulfilment, abandonment, or deferral, because the Sirdars dare not declare themselves even to those who are to be the agents of their enterprize, and the revolution must be carried on as the mere effect of mutinous spirit amongst the troops. At the same time I would humbly submit that precautions are advisable to render null a design, which certainly has existence, although possibly it may not be developed. The complete possession by our steamers of the stream of the Jelum is one of the simplest and not least effective precautions. I have already more than once adverted to it.

All was quiet in Peshawur on the 1st instant.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The Commandant Syud Mahomed Shah had had difficulty in persuading his Artillerymen to act disloyally. He has been taking great pains to persuade Colonel Canara that they would carry him by force. This is the individual who was made Commandant secretly through Rajah Deena Nath.

I sign the Chilauns daily, and seal the collar of the letter bag to the bag with my Persian seal.

No. 82.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 5th August 1848.

5th August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—The Gahndia (Pukli) Brigade remains in the same state of preparedness for instant march, and will move whenever it thinks my vigilance relaxed. Two Moosulmans of the 8th Company of Bhadoor Singh's Regiment came to me yesterday with an urzee from that officer, declaring how entirely loyal he has been throughout, and that all the blame of the present state of things rests upon Bhoop Singh. Bhoop Singh's men state the same of Bhadoor Singh. There is little doubt that the two Moosulman companies and the artillery, who are Moosulmans, were averse from the move. But it is certain that all were ready to start and prevented only by the discovery that the roads were guarded. The Hurripoor and Qatur and Bunnoo

forces cannot well move without this brigade. But the facts are now so widely blown that I think they will be afraid to defer the march many days. A messenger from Bunnoo states that the rising there was in consequence of a letter from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, and that the same hand caused the movement in Pukli. This man is wholly disconnected with others from whom I have heard the same report. Indeed excepting myself no one in Huzara has ever doubted theparticipation of the Sirdar. I long considered it improbable. News from Raja Shere Singh's camp describes that Chief as using his utmost efforts to strengthen Moolraj and to win the people of Mooltan away from us. I fear from his account that Shere Singh must have cut off Captain Edwardes' daks. By last night's post I learn that another Huzara post bag is not forthcoming, and from Peshawur that one of my letters has been withheld or intercepted. I would earnestly press the importance of arrangements for making the dak independent of the Durbar and Chiefs of the Punjaub, or all intelligence will soon be cut off. I do not know what force has come to Ferozepore in place of that which has departed, but I trust there cannot be two military opinions as to the necessity of a strong reserve at that station. The Sikh movements are rapid beyond all calculation, and the design of marching upon Lahore is certainly not abandoned, although it is at present delayed by circumstances. The troops calculate upon being joined by the whole Sikh population and of having friends in the citadel. I trust also that disarrangements in the dak are viewed in their true light. The interception of a dak bag is strong presumptive evidence of a rising, for excepting the Sirdars there is no one who has authority for this. The interception of two successive post bags may be regarded almost as conclusive. I know that at present the idea is to isolate the detached agencies and forces, as they find their designs discovered and reported as soon as made. A plot in which 20,000 or more participate is not easily concealed when once suspicion of it gets abroad. The resolution to march upon Lahore was embraced by the Pukli Brigade, according to my intelligence, upon the arrival of a messenger from Lahore who was sent up from Hurripoor by Sirdar Chuttur Singh.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

No. 83.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th August 1848.

6th August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—I have written to the Residency every day excepting one, and then I sent a message by Mr. Skinner. I have reason to think from Mr. Skinner's notes that some of my letters have been intercepted: this will account for occasional repetitions of matter mentioned under previous dates. I have said that the Pukli Brigade of about 800 bayonets, two troops of horse, four field guns, and 20 zumbooras, had broken up its bazar, sold off its stores of grain, called in its cattle, packed much of its baggage and was actually about to march that morning for Lahore, when it found that I had manned all the roads with the armed peasantry of Huzara. It is still in the same state of readiness for an immediate start, and will be joined by the Huzara, Khowta, and Qatur forces and in all probability by that of Bunnoo. Sirdar Chuttur Singh seems to be the immediate mover of the whole. He has been in correspondence with Colonel Bhadoor Singh (who was an attendant of the war *punches* of the Sikhs and a diligent promoter of them), and to this day he has not given me a hint of the state of that force, although it has for the last month or more been notorious throughout Huzara. He shuts himself up in his house all day on pretence of sickness, whilst his letters and emissaries are being dismissed (*sic*) in all quarters,—to Cabul, Peshawur, Bunnoo, Cashmere and throughout Huzara and Qatur. Such at least is the information brought me by my spies, and it agrees with general rumor and with my own observation. At the same time, a degree of caution, quite uncommon, is preserved in consequence of two of his sons being in our power, and to the very last moment he will preserve the veil. I understand, but it wants confirmation, that he has sent some elephants towards Pukli to help the guns by the Moozuffurabad or Agrore routes which are impracticable to carriages. The force calculates upon being joined by all the discharged soldiery and by the entire Sikh population and expects to muster 40 or 50,000 men by the time it reaches Lahore. Upon what grounds this expectation is based can be best judged at Lahore. I can learn nothing about the probable movements of the Peshawur force. My intelligence I consider quite authentic, as it is derived from a large number of separate testimonies of persons who have no intercourse with one another. From the Muhammadan soldiers of the Pukli Brigade, I

learn that a man brought two letters without signature from Moozuffur-abad addressed to the force in Pukli saying, "Are you Sikhs? if so, what do you here when your Gooroo is calling you at Mooltan," and that a man brought a letter from Moolraj addressed to the same soldiery to nearly the same effect, adding "I have commenced the fight at your call and you leave me to perish unaided." From two different quarters I hear that the son of General Sooltan Maimood wrote his father lately saying, "I have prepared all the troops for a start but my guns are imprisoned in the fort of Bunnoo. Nevertheless, I have gained over some of the garrison, and we will murder Futteh Khan and set the guns free." The General was a protégé of Raja Taija Singh, but whether from policy or change of relations the General abuses the Raja. The soldiers of the Pukli force confirm the intelligence elsewhere received that they are in expectation of being joined by the whole of the Huzara and Qatur forces, and by the army of Maharaja Goolab Singh. If proper precautions are taken, this movement may save a world of suspense and uncertainty. It will show at once the state of the Sikh army and the steps necessary in consequence, but I am not sure that the force will venture to move unless the Pukli Brigade can make its escape, and *that* it is my study to prevent. I have not received a word of news from Lahore for many days, and know not whether my warnings have led to the adoption of any precautionary measures.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The intelligence elsewhere recorded of the Cabul Ruler's refusal to join Sirdar Chuttur Singh is confirmed by intelligence from Peshawur.

No. 84—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 6th to the 13th August 1848.

6th August 1848—Huzara, Sherwaun.—Last evening Sirdar Chuttur Singh sent me a confidential Vuqueel to endeavour to lull my doubts of his most extraordinary conduct and at the same time to ascertain how much I knew of his guilt. His letter merely exprest the impossibility of a person so favored as he had been turning traitor. I replied to his Vuqueel that I hoped he was as true as he wished me to believe, but that it was most difficult for me to comprehend how a

mutiny of his forces could be carried on for two months and the Gahndia Brigade be actually prepared for a march to Lahore without his cognizance, when it had long been notorious to the whole country : that the measures I had been obliged to take to coerce his soldiery were exactly such as I would have taken had his conduct been altogether free from suspicion, and that therefore if, as he said, he had no faith in the Sikh troops, it was the more necessary that I should not rely upon his power to order their movements; it was strange that whilst expressing this want of faith he should take upon himself, contrary to my orders, to order up three companies from Hussun Ubdal; the consequences of this step might be most serious and I would not answer for them: that it would soon become evident who were innocent and who guilty, and that I suspended judgment until full evidence should be afforded me: that he must march back the companies aforesaid and order all troops to keep their cantonments, otherwise I should consider any movement of troops as a signal of rebellion: that as to his wish to send me his son as a proof of his sincerity, I could not place that son under restraint, and his being near me were no security; in fact the presence of his son with a large retinue and a purse heavier than my own would be most embarrassing at the present moment, as nothing could be done without his cognizance, whilst at the same moment he would not be responsible for the movement of the army, and any measure of mine to arrest the march of mutineers would be frustrated by his previous knowledge of my movements, whilst his intrigues with the army would appear incredible because his son was in my power.

This morning on my return from my walk, I received a note from Colonel Canara, saying that the Sirdar had ordered the troops and his guns to encamp outside the city; that he had remonstrated, saying that such a move at such a moment would subject them to the charge of rebellion, it being without my sanction; that the Sirdar had sent his confidential servants to win him over, but in vain; that he thought there would be a struggle for the guns that night and that he begged my instructions how to act. If he was to resist, he begged support. I had hardly read his note before his murder was reported to me. The Sirdar, it seems, sent two companies to seize the guns by force. Colonel Canara loaded them with grape and ordered his golundauze to fire.

They shrank from him, saying they were the Sirdar's servants. His Havildar still refusing to apply the match, Canara cut him down and applied it with his own hand. It burnt priming and he was immediately shot by two sipahis; it is said that he rose to cut down another assailant when his own neck was severed. Thus died a man who, whatever the defects of education and infirmities of nature, closed his career with an act of gallantry and loyalty unsurpassed by anything I can remember in history. I most earnestly trust that the family of this brave and faithful officer may be suitably provided for; they live in Lahore. And I as earnestly trust that measures of retribution upon the brutal and wanton murderer will be speedily adopted.

What his present design is can only be conjectured. I believe that he thinks his deep and treacherous conduct is laid bare and that his only hope is to collect a force around him and trust to support from Jumboo and union with Moolraj. I am confirmed in this opinion by the arrival of a messenger from Major Lawrence, who states that he met two emissaries from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who said they had been sent by him to excite a mutiny in Peshawur. They were Sikh soldiers. He has written also to levy large bodies of irregular troops, unless my information deceive me. The Pukli force is still in durance, but he is making extraordinary efforts to set it free and has gained over many of the chiefs and Mulliks. It is said that the cause of this rise in Pukli and Huzara was the fear that Sirdar Jhundur Singh, who has the credit of having been a great intriguer, had been ordered to Lahore for imprisonment and trial. I am aware that this idea was for a time prevalent and caused Sirdar Chuttur Singh some dismay.

8th August 1848.—I waited until evening for some explanation from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, but as none arrived, I collected the chiefs of Huzara and ordered them to take measures for preventing the march of troops to Hurripoor. Unfortunately the valley is too open for the contest of zumeendars with regular troops. I also resolved upon changing my position from Sherwaun to Gundgurh, the latter being nearer to Hurripoor and affording greater means of offensive operations. Accordingly on the night of the 7th we left Sherwaun and reached Nara at the foot

of the Gundgurh mountain the evening following ; our baggage has not arrived. On the road Jehandad Khan put into my hand a letter just received from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, reminding him of a conversation with the Chief's Vuzeer in which he, the Sirdar, had promised him extension of jaghir upon condition of certain services ; that he now called upon him to fulfil his part of the covenant and assured him that the fulfilment should be mutual. I hope this Chief may be in earnest in his present profession of loyalty and that the night visit to the Sirdar formerly noted may not have been made by himself but by the Vuzeer, a man of the most profligate character. This is a tangible proof that Sirdar Chuttur Singh has been tampering with the Huzara chiefs for several months past, promising them extension of jaghir upon condition of their aiding him in some meditated enterprize. The mistake under which so many people fell (according to this supposition), *viz.*, of supposing that because the Vuzeer was of the party, Jehandad Khan was also there was easily made by night.

9th August 1848—Nara.—The Sirdar continues to summon troops to his assistance, although I have assured him that upon sending me the murderers and ordering back the troops I will settle the whole country by means of a couple of chuprassies. Strange reports have been abroad, but to-day we were favored with a dak which had escaped the hands of the Sirdar and learn with infinite relief that the Peshawur Agency continues peaceful. The dak contained no news from Lahore. Indeed it is very long since I have had any intelligence of what is passing in that quarter or at Mooltan and am wholly ignorant whether the many intimations I have given of secret proceedings here have led to precautions.

10th August—Nara.—To-day a note from Attock informed me of Captain Nicholson's arrival there. He had turned out the Sikh company with some difficulty and was in possession of that important fort and passage. This is an able and well-timed move ; for his presence in Potowar is greatly needed. My chief deficiency here is in funds for the supply of which, I trust, arrangements will be made at Lahore. A report has just reached me from a good source that the Sikhs are thinking only how they may disengage the Pukli Brigade in order to march upon Lahore. They confidently expect to be joined by the Peshawur force, and a messenger from Peshawur met two of the Sirdar's

emissaries sent, as they assured him, to raise a mutiny there. They also say, and I beg to recommend the subject for investigation, that a portion of our Native troops are in treaty to play the traitor at Lahore. It has been a mistake from the first to regard this insurrection as an isolated instead of as a national movement, in so far, at least, as the sect of Sikhs can be considered a Nation. The Hussun Ubdal force marched up toward Hurripoor by order of Sirdar Chuttur Singh, and in spite of the remonstrances of the Commanding Officers. Colonel Boodh Singh, Maun, finding himself set at naught, left the corps and returned to his home. Unfortunately the intermediate space is too open for such a force to be coped with by peasantry. They will reach Hurripoor to-morrow.

11th August 1848—Nara.—The Hussun Ubdal force reached Hurripoor to-day and there is a report that the cavalry of Mhaitab Singh, Majitea, is in full march to join it, although that Sirdar has exprest his determination not to move without my orders. A report has arrived to-day stating that Raja Sher Singh has actually joined Moolraj. But weeks may elapse ere we know whether or not it has foundation. A letter from the Sirdar Chuttur Singh to Jehandad Khan came by chance into my hand. He calls upon him to remember the past and that he had depended upon the chief to aid him in emergency and enquires why his letters are unanswered. He concludes by saying, "You must bring the Sahib with you to Hurripoor," meaning of course that he is to seize me.

12th August—Nara.—This day I intercepted a bag of letters from Sirdar Chuttur Singh to Maharaja Goolab Singh, Meean Runbeer Singh and Raja Jowahir Singh, imploring them instantly to send him four regiments from Moozuffurabad and all the Meerpoor force and to write to the Peshawur troops to join him. I despatched this evening, at his own particular request, Lieutenant Robinson of Engineers to Mahugul, the pass leading from Pukli, to encourage the peasantry to cut off the retreat of the Sikhs, my departure from Tunnole having led to much defection.

13th August.—To-day the report from Lahore states that the Gahndia force is actually free of its limbo and arrived at Nowa Shihr. I trust this is unfounded and from the statements of subsequent emissaries am inclined to doubt it. The talk of the Sikh soldiery at Hurripoor is the old story of a march upon Lahore the instant the

Pukli Brigade is disengaged. Captain Nicholson's possession of the fort of Attock will, I trust, disconcert such an intention. It is observable that the Sirdar whilst charging upon me all the onus of the present state of the army and country does not seem to have resorted to the obvious remedy, *viz.*, an appeal to the Resident, but launches at once into open rebellion, inciting the army to mutiny and inviting foreign invasion. How flimsy an excuse is his may be argued from this circumstance. In fact the present state of things is what has long been contemplated by the insurgents, excepting only the necessity of the chief movers appearing in person occasioned by the arrest of the Pukli Brigade and the brutal murder of Colonel Canara. For the last two months my intelligence has pointed to this result, but that excessive caution which characterizes Sikh policy has from time to time deferred the event as other results have disappointed expectation.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

12 Noon.—Sirdar Chuttur Singh in his insulting letter to me of yesterday acknowledges having paid the murderers of Colonel Canara one thousand rupees.

J. ABBOTT.

No 85.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 13th to the 15th August 1848.

13th August 1848—Nara, Huzara.—The last letter of Sirdar Chuttur Singh is couched in terms admitting of no further intercourse of a friendly character. Nevertheless previous to commencing a war of extermination with the mutinous troops whom he has called about him, a war inflicting upon the innocent people of the country wide and mournful ravage, I have allowed his Vuqueel to depart with a schedule of terms upon which I will place the country in its former state of quietude, and with a refutation of the charges he prefers against me. The terms are those dictated from the first, the surrender for judgment of the murderers of Colonel Canara and the dismissal to their cantonments

of the several corps. I have limited him until early to-morrow morning for an answer. Meanwhile as Captain Nicholson writes me that he purposes taking post in Margulla Pass to arrest the march of Pertaub Singh's Regiment from Kurrore. I have sent him all my mustered troops now available, consisting of 220 Foot and 60 Horse, depending myself upon the Mushwani Levy of peasants, who have arrived to the number of about 300, but who object to employment away from their own mountain. I was most anxious to start myself for that pass, but all my people assure me that it would be mistaken for flight and that the next day I should be without a follower. I fancy I might persuade the corps to return to its duty could I be personally present. I have desired Captain Nicholson not to attempt opposition unless pretty certain of success, as the stake is very great. Indeed I regret that he did not remain just now at Attock, the preservation of which is of the utmost consequence.

In Hurripoor there appears to be a division of feeling. The artillery generally are averse from the mutiny. Colonel Nooroodden writes that he resisted the march as long as he could, but that he received no answer to his many urzees. I received from him only one and wrote in reply immediately. A force is to be sent up immediately to open the Mahugul Pass for the escape of the Pukli Brigade. But their intentions on the rescue of this Brigade are variously reported. The Brigade, it is said, struck camp a day or two ago and was about to march, when deterred by the Nagarees beating to arms in the mountains and the consequent assurance that the passes were still guarded. I have written Colonel Bhoop Singh that if he will give me any satisfactory assurance that his force will stand fast in cantonments, I will reopen the passes and send them up their pay. I have directed him to communicate with Lieutenant Robinson at Mahugul. I have also issued *Ishtahar namahs* assuring those of the troops returning to their duty of forgiveness.

14th August 1848—Nara.—I spent a most anxious night, not being assured of the sufficiency of Captain Nicholson's levy. I find, however, that the Sikh Regiment halted at Jani ke Sungh with purpose to threaten the pass to-morrow, and I hear that Captain Nicholson's levy is swelled to a considerable body. Lieutenant Robinson writes me that he has already about 800 men and expects soon 3,000. The Sirdar has sent no answer to the terms I have insisted upon. This leaves no doubt that he has taken his part finally as a rebel and relieves me of some anxiety lest his present

lawless conduct should have resulted from mere alarm, in which case I should have regretted the promptitude with which I had made my arrangements for coercion. As the Sirdar has command of an army of some 4,000 Regular troops with guns and cavalry movable at an hour's notice and with a rapidity seldom equalled, and as my levies require days and even weeks to collect, it is absolutely necessary to lose no time in my arrangements for acting with peasantry against regular troops. Sirdar Chuttur Singh has written, it is said, to Colonel Boodh Singh, Maun, saying, "I raised this mutiny for the family of Maun, and you, one of its representatives, are false to your own cause and to mine." It will be remembered that two strong efforts were made to shake the loyalty of this fine officer, first by a false report of the resumption of his jaghir, and secondly by sending a Moonshee to demand 600 rupees said to have been illegally disbursed by him to his troops beyond the Sutlej. Toward evening the post of the 11th came to hand, and I find with much relief that a Commissioner has been appointed to examine and report upon matters in Huzara. This relieves me henceforth of a responsibility most painful. In obedience to the Resident's instructions, I have written desiring Captain Nicholson to avoid, if consistent with honor, all collision with the Sikh Regiment, and have ordered Lieutenant Robinson to confine his operations to the destruction of the Gahndia force should it attempt to march.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

15th August, morning.—I have reason to hope that Pertaub Singh's Regiment will return to its cantonments; if not, in all probability it will be destroyed. I have just taken the evidence of a Sikh soldier who says that Sirdar Chuttur Singh has written Goolab Singh that if he be his son he must carry away Maharaja Dhuleep Singh, that he had given each soldier one rupee as a present and had settled with them to march upon Lahore so soon as the Gahndia (Pukli) Brigade should be free. I have already informed you that he has applied to Jumboo for troops and for a letter to stir up the Peshawur force to mutiny and for another to the Cabul Ruler. This is pretty good proof that he has himself attempted unsuccessfully to create mutiny in Peshawur.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 86.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 16th August 1848.

16th August 1848—Nara, Huzara.—I despatched my diary by yesterday's post, but the fate of the letter bags is very uncertain, as the instant after the murder of Colonel Canara Sirdar Chuttur Singh seized all the post bags and ordered up the troops, his conscience assuring him that his guilt was now manifest. Captain Nicholson rode, I have said, to the Margulla Pass to superintend operations for arresting Pertaub Singh's Corps and guns. Finding his levy strong he did not wait for the mutineers, but marched to their camp at Jani ke Sungh and having hemmed them in allowed them half an hour to decide whether to obey the order of return or to stand his attack. After a very stormy debate discretion prevailed over valor and they returned. The affair was managed with Captain Nicholson's usual skill and decision, and its results promise to be most important. The stake was great, for it was uncertain how soon his levies could be raised, and many of them were not famous for valor. But his own intrepidity seems to have inspired them all and bloodshed has been saved by it, which might have proved the hydra seed (*sic*) of further mischief. Whatever may be the opinion of Government as to my policy, I humbly opine there can be no question that the Government has received in this affair the most important service from Captain Nicholson.

I have as yet no account of Mr. Cock's approach. Sirdar Chuttur Singh is so far plunged in rebellion that it might not be prudent to place in his way a hostage for his son at Lahore. Last night Colonel Nooroodin attempted to execute my orders by marching back three of his guns to their cantonment, but five companies of Boodh Singh's corps seized and detained them. The Sirdar writes politely to me to-day, but avoids answering my two demands,—the surrender of the murderers and the return of the troops mutinously summoned to their cantonments. In Pukli the brigade is in despair. The passes are well guarded under Lieutenant Robinson's supervision. All was quiet in Peshawur by the last account. Captain Nicholson's masterly capture of Attock seems to have damped the zeal of the disaffected. But my news is not very recent. The Resident's orders prevent active operations, otherwise this were the time to destroy the whole of this gang of mutineers, with their murderous leader.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 87.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 29th August 1848.

29th August 1848—Huzara.—As Sirdar Chuttur Singh's force has been close to Margulla, and my last posts may have been intercepted, I will endeavor to record from memory the transactions of the last four days.

When Sirdar Jhundur Singh arrived on deputation from Lahore, the case of Sirdar Chuttur Singh was almost hopeless. His brigade in Pukli and wing at Nowa Shihr were completely cut off from relief; Attock was in our possession; the Margulla Pass was closed. Pertaub Singh's corps had been turned back by Captain Nicholson and I was about to commence the investment of Hurripoor. All his applications for foreign aid had been negatived, and he was thinking only how he should leave his army and escape with his son over the mountains; but the arrival of Jhundur Singh, one of the most wily of intriguers and the best captain in the Sikh service, inspired fresh confidence. Living in the British camp and believed by Captain Nicholson to be sincere, he was master of our weakness, of our opinions and of our views. I indeed gave him his dismissal to Lahore the second day of his arrival at my camp, on his distinctly refusing to attempt the task to which he had pledged himself with the Resident, *viz.*, to bring back the troops to their allegiance. This task was then apparently easy from the divided state of their feeling and their despair of being joined by the Peshawur Brigades; and I was quite satisfied by Sirdar Jhundur Singh's obstinate refusal to make the attempt to recover their allegiance that he had no wish to see this rebellion put down. But on his reaching Captain Nicholson's Camp, he put in play all his extraordinary address and frankness of manner and opened to that officer new hopes of settling by negotiation this unhappy affair. The delay alone attending his mission was a circumstance most favorable to Sirdar Chuttur Singh's cause. I could not cut off the supplies and water of the Hurripoor force so long as negotiations were pending. In the midst of these negotiations and whilst Jhundur Singh was flattering Captain Nicholson with hopes that the Sirdar would submit to the terms offered him, the Sikh force at Hurripoor made a feint to relieve the Pukli Brigade, and I started across the mountains to gain the Sulhud and Dumtour passes before them. There the next day a verbal message

from Captain Nicholson reached me to effect that Chuttur Singh with the whole Hurripoor force had made a dash upon Hussun Ubdal; but had been met and stopt by his own levies on the northern side of the Moti ravine. In an hour my little force was in motion to join Captain Nicholson, and, after a march of 40 miles under a burning sun, came up with the rear of the Sikh camp, which next morning I passed, being prevented molesting them by Captain Nicholson's promise to that effect as negotiations were still pending, Sirdar Chuttur Singh having promised to send his son Sirdar Aotar Singh to Captain Nicholson. Sirdar Chuttur Singh having failed in this his promise, I had on 24th instant Captain Nicholson's consent to advance to the Moti ravine and to cut off the supplies of the Huzara Brigade. I then took an accurate survey of the ravine, which is about 30 feet deep, with many ramifications and considerable shelter for sharpshooters, and my impression was that I could either check the Sikh force there, or inflict upon them at least very serious damage. This I promised Captain Nicholson to attempt, but dissuaded him taking part in the affair as it seemed expedient that he should at present preserve his post to check the approach of Pertaub Singh's Regiment from Rawul Pindi. On advancing to the Moti ravine and choosing a position for my camp in the midst of it, I received a note from Captain Nicholson, mentioning that Sirdar Aotar Singh had that morning waited upon him; that Sirdar Chuttur Singh complained of my having advanced after the departure of his son (whereas it was the sight of my force within a mile of his camp which caused the young Sirdar's departure) and of my having interrupted his supplies. It concluded by saying that he had promised my force should immediately retire and that the supplies should be allowed to reach his camp. I was greatly disheartened by this arrangement, which, had it not been agreed to previously, I would never have consented to. But I withdrew my force according to compact, amid the remonstrance and surprise of all my people, who I perceived lost their confidence in me by this appearance of vacillation. I pitched my tent upon a height in sight of the Sikh camp, and as Captain Nicholson had limited negotiations to the close of that day (the 26th) I observed from time to time with some anxiety the Sikh camp, being assured that treachery was meditated. Accordingly close upon sunset I perceived Sirdar Jhundur Singh returning from a mission to the Sikh

camp and the Sikh camp busied in preparations for a march. I collected with all possible speed my raw levies scattered over the neighbouring villages and gardens (as having no tents) and marched to meet the Sikhs, hoping to be able to throw myself into the Moti ravine ere their heavy guns should have passed it. The Sikhs, however, were quite ready to march when first I observed them, and had not above one-fourth of the distance which I must traverse to the ravine. My people were fainting with thirst as they religiously observe this Fast. Many were preparing their food, and it was some time before I could get in motion any considerable portion of the 2,000 matchlocks under my command. These I encouraged as they advanced by showing them how ineffective is the fire of artillery in the dark, and never did men march to action in higher spirits or with greater apparent assurance of victory.

The possibility of defending the passage of the Moti ravine is dependent upon previous occupation. If an enemy has time to pass over his advanced guards and get possession of the further bank and there establish his batteries, the defence by daylight is hopeless, and even now by night I could hope for little more than to inflict upon the columns such punishment as would be beneficial to our cause hereafter. Twilight was far advanced as I approached the ravine at the head of 100 Horse, the Foot straggling behind in spite of every effort to consolidate them. Observing two dark masses which appeared to be elephants, and hoping to surprise the guns upon their backs, I galloped toward them, instead of lodging my Horse under the shelter of a village as at first intended, pending the arrival of the Foot. I soon found, however, that the two howitzers were in position, their fire raking the whole line of our approach. I therefore drew up the Horse under the shelter first designed for them, and returned to collect the Foot which had disappeared in a small ravine as the howitzers opened. This was a work of time. I threw them into the ravine and then following took the lead, purposing to return, when they were well advanced, to take command of the Horse. I do not think however that of all the 2,100 matchlocks receiving pay or food, above 800 could ever have entered the ravine. Of these not above 20 or 30 could by any means be recovered from their first panic or persuaded to follow me in my repeated attempts to bring them hand to hand with the enemy. Before we could fight our way up to the gun road, the whole of the Sikh force had passed

over and was drawn up in an open plain, the intense darkness rendering it impossible to make out their position. Much ammunition, which I could little spare, was idly expended, and finding there was no hope of bringing the levies hand to hand with the Sikh piquets, I towards morning withdrew the whole force and marched to Captain Nicholson's camp. Here we decided that his position was no longer tenable, Pertaub Singh's Regiment with two guns and 400 levies having made its way through a pass little known. We resolved therefore to march to Hussun Ubdal, examine the ground there, and, if we found its strength sufficient, to make a stand together, and if not, that each should do the best he could in his own region—I to preserve my footing in Huzara and he to preserve Attock. The survey of the Hussun Ubdal rocks gave us no confidence in being able to hold that place above one day against 4 Sikh regiments, 400 irregulars and 8 guns, and it seemed far better that both our forces should retire from it with unsullied arms than risk the probable chance of a defeat upon ground where our levies could not fight to the greatest advantage and where our cavalry could not act.

In pursuance of this resolution, I marched on the morning of 28th for Kote Nujjeeboolla, not however before Captain Nicholson and myself had once agreed to dismiss Sirdar Jhundur Singh, the author of all our present difficulties, I having signed and sealed his letter of dismissal and Captain Nicholson having relented and, to my exceeding sorrow, suffered him to linger in his camp, a circumstance from which I augur the worst results to our cause.

Sirdar Jhundur Singh having produced a letter purporting to be from Sirdar Goolab Singh urging that Sirdar Aotar Singh should be sent to Lahore, both Captain Nicholson and myself thought the motion advisable and, with full consent of the young Sirdar, sent him on his way. He, however, either voluntarily joined his father or was waylaid by him on the road. In either case there can be little doubt that Jhundur Singh either devised or conducted this fresh act of treachery. I am encamped near the Fort of Hurkishengurh, which will be invested to-morrow.

I need not, I think, advert to the opinion I expressed on first learning that Sirdar Jhundur Singh had been sent to settle the Sikh army in Huzara. Either I am gifted with prophecy or my estimate of Sikh

character and intrigue is correct. In the latter case I earnestly beg the consideration of Government to the state of our affairs brought about by the mission of Sirdar Jhundur Singh and the urgent necessity of measures which previous to his arrival I hoped would not be required.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 88.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 4th September 1848.

4th September 1848—Camp Nara, Huzara.—The active duties in which I have been engaged have inevitably led to irregularity in my Journal. But only one day has passed without a note from my pen addrest to the Residency at Lahore. No post has been received from Lahore during the last three days, Chuttur Singh having contrived to cut off the daks. When Captain Nicholson and myself had determined not to make a stand at Hussun Ubdal, I retired to Huzara, and, on the march of the Sikh force for Hussun Ubdal, Captain Nicholson moved upon Attock, the Sikh army following. But on the 2nd Chuttur Singh, finding perhaps no hope of support from Peshawur, turned back and re-occupied Hussun Ubdal and yesterday retired about four miles toward Margulla Pass. Captain Nicholson's army followed and took post at Sooltanpoor, about eight miles distant, a station on the flank of any advance of the Sikh force towards Huzara. Such was the posture of affairs last night. The Pukli Brigade was still at Mansera, afraid to advance, the passes being closely watched under the supervision of Lieutenant Robinson. Still, were the people of Huzara wholly devoted to a work which is far more for their benefit than for that of any third party, the Pukli force must long since have surrendered or attempted to force the passes. Begirt as they are with armed levies, not an ounce of food should find its way to their camp. The report in the Sikh camp states that the Sirdar wants only the junction of the Pukli Brigade to march upon Lahore. I have frequently exprest my opinion that since the unfortunate result of Jhundur Singh's treachery, matters cannot be settled in this region without aid of a British force and that not a regiment should be withdrawn from Lahore for this purpose.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 89.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th September 1848.

6th September 1848—Camp Nara, Huzara.—I despatched my Journal of yesterday by a bypath to the Post Office at Rawul Pindi, but to-day I hear that Chuttur Singh arrests the post bag at Bukralla, and for four days no letter has reached me from Lahore. It is therefore necessary to find some other line of dak. Sirdar Chuttur Singh having marched as far as Huzroo, apparently to besiege Attock, turned back suddenly from thence and reoccupied Hussun Ubdal, which he again quitted as Captain Nicholson's force arrived in the neighbourhood. Chuttur Singh took post at Banbera, five miles eastward of Hussun Ubdal, and sent Aotar Singh (his son) with 600 foot, some guns and horse to force Margulla Pass, which seems to have been accomplished with little opposition. Aotar Singh went on to Rawul Pindi, where the bulk of Sirdar Goolab Singh Poovindia's horse have, I imagine, joined him. His detachment returned to Banbera, and Chuttur Singh having lodged his heavy baggage at Kala ke Seraie apparently meditates a return to Huzara to free his detachments from the passes. He has, however, I hear made a march onward to Kala ke Seraie to-day. Captain Nicholson, whose vigilance is incessant, turned his flank by a night march to Koorum in the Khaunpoor mountains, which has probably led to this advance of Chuttur Singh's force. It seems impossible that he should leave the Pukli Brigade in limbo. Lieutenant Robinson continues to guard the upper passes, and I am endeavouring to raise levies to act with either. I supposed it quite certain that Chuttur Singh would be employed for some time before Attock, and ad opus Robinsoni totum exercitum misi. I have several times expressed an opinion that since the treachery of Sirdar Jhundur Singh a British force will be necessary to quell this rebellion and that not a regiment should be drawn for the purpose from Lahore.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 90.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 6th September 1848.

6th September 1848.—Nara, Huzara.—Yesterday Captain Nicholson attacked the bastion which guards the Margulla Pass with his usual

gallantry. He was, however, unprovided with scaling ladders and guns, and, Sirdar Chuttur Singh bringing up his whole force to the rescue, retired with the loss of about six men killed and several wounded. The attempt was bold but too hazardous. Were the Sikh force withdrawn the bastion might be forced without much difficulty. But men defended by walls do not lose heart whilst aid is within sight. Captain Nicholson was wounded slightly with a stone. Colonel Boodh Singh was more severely injured by a similar missile Captain Nicholson continues at Koorum in the Khaunpoor mountains, and Chuttur Singh's force is at Kala Seraie. The attack has had the happy effect of diverting the Sikhs from their purpose of succouring the Gahndia (Pukli) Brigade which remains at Mansera. It is difficult to make out the views of Chuttur Singh, some say he wishes to march to Baug Bootur, but it is more probable that he will attempt to raise force enough to make his way to Lahore or to Mooltan. Our daks have been intercepted the last week it is said at Bukrala, and we are endeavouring to establish a dak *viâ* Pind Dadun Khan. I long ago noticed the importance of having the daks independent, so far as possible, of Native supervison, and pointed out the importance of establishing an agency in Goojrat. Had the Potowar and Goojrat agencies been in operation this rebellion had either never broken out, or had been put down in a few days. I should argue from the movements of the rebel force that Jhundur Singh's influence is still felt, and that he is not far off, but I have no tidings of his movements. I trust the families of the rebels have been arrested and that the so often urged precaution of mastering the river Jelum has not been neglected.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

I beg to recommend with all deference that no troops be withdrawn from Lahore for the force here requisite.

P.S.—13th September.—This was accidentally left at Nara when I proceeded to Dumtour, no arrangement having then been made for our daks.

No. 91.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th September 1848.

7th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Our daks have been completely cut off for many days. I therefore am obliged to try the route by Pind

Dadun Khan. I hear that Chuttur Singh, having burnt the tower at Margulla and placed all his baggage with one regiment in the Kala Seraie, has marched to-day in this direction with the bulk of his brigade lightly equipped, in order to open the passes to the Pukli Brigade. I am making the best arrangements in my power to meet this movement. It would give my partizans great confidence to hear that a British force had marched toward Huzara; for it seems no longer an easy matter to cope with the forces collected together without such assistance. The people of Pukli and Dumtour have been bought over to Sikh interests, and with a divided people and without aid of guns it is hard to encounter regular troops in the plain. I have with my armed peasantry arrested for five weeks the march of a brigade of regular troops mustering 800 bayonets, 200 cavalry, 4 guns and 20 zumboorahs, and this in spite of low funds and insuperable difficulty in obtaining ammunition. This respite must I humbly opine have afforded leisure to the Government to meet the armed irruption with a suitable force and with promptitude, and I trust that it is owing solely to the arrest of our daks that I am not advised of the march of succour. The forts of Torbaila, Barookote and Ghazi of Mari, Chujjia and Khaunpoor have surrendered to me after short sieges : others are invested. It is not my wish to disturb the garrisons of any but commanding posts, provided they profess loyalty, but the possession of the plain by a Sikh army with guns renders the possession of certain forts by my garrisons essentially necessary to security. The Fort of Syudpoor belonging to Chuttur Singh was besieged and reduced without my knowledge. It is just as well that the mistake was made.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 92.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 7th to the 13th September 1848.

7th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh having deposited his baggage and heavy guns in Kala Seraie, and taking with him four regiments, six guns, some horse, say 600, and a considerable body of Sebundies, marched from the Seraie in a single march of about 25 miles to Hurripoor. I heard of his intention to march, but not until he was actually on his way. I made preparations to dispute the passage of the

Moti ravine, although the lightness of his present equipment rendered it a very hazardous experiment, but before my levies were collected we saw the head of his column several miles on the hither side.

8th September 1848—Nara.—Captain Nicholson on learning the march of Chuttur Singh started in pursuit and passed him during the night, by a most extraordinary march of some 35 miles, and I shall march instantly up to the Sulhud Pass, as I see the Sikh force is again on the move upwards.

9th September—Sulhud.—I marched this day to Sulhud and found both that Pass and the Dumtour Pass wholly undefended, at least there were not above 50 men at Sulhud, where 700 or 800 are necessary, and not a fighting man at Dumtour, Hussun Ali Khan, Kurral, having in spite of stringent orders withdrawn his levies. I posted 700 men in Sulhud and proceeded to Dumtour to make arrangements there. Captain Nicholson came in with his force of 900 matchlocks and 300 cavalry whilst I was at Dumtour, and we had a consultation with the persons best acquainted with the country. The opinion of every man of rank in Captain Nicholson's force is that they cannot hold so extended a line of defences with 1,100 matchlocks, our utmost array. This too being Captain Nicholson's opinion, I have counselled him not to attempt it, but to fall back at once and allow the enemy to pass. This night, however, I received his final resolution, *viz.*, that finding his people in better heart, upon the assurance that I would check a sally upon their rear of the Nowa Shihr garrison of 400 bayonets, and would co-operate with them upon the enemy's flank, he had finally decided upon making a stand. I confess I regret this resolution, which is one of self-sacrifice, because it is contrary to his own opinion, and because my power of resisting with two or three hundred matchlocks the sally of 400 bayonets, is something more than doubtful.

10th September—Sulhud.—Early this morning, finding that the Sikh camp was breaking up, I collected all the defenders of the Sulhud Pass, 700 in number, and marching after the Sikh army overtook it at Rujjooia, about six miles from Dumtour. The Sikhs halted and encamped at Rujjooia, and I pushed on to Dumtour and joined Captain Nicholson. As they cannot attack us to-day, I am apprehensive that they may turn back to the Sulhud Pass, which I have left undefended. I have therefore sent 400 matchlocks thither. We have now all three portions of an

army of 4,000 men, with 10 guns and 40 zumbooras, in close proximity severed only by our own irregular troops. Whether these, inferior in number to the regulars and unprovided with artillery, will be persuaded to stand, remains to be seen. The risk is very great, and the consequences of failure may be most disastrous.

11th September 1848—Dumtour.—The Sikh camp was under arms at a very early hour, and we turned out our levies an hour before dawn. But owing to the slowness and want of prompt obedience of these people (I cannot call them soldiers), my own levies which were not in position (having arrived last afternoon, starving and exhausted from their long and burning march) were late in getting into place, and I was detained in performing the office of Quarter-master, as the only person whom they will obey. When I had made my way to the front I perceived that a body of irregulars was pushing towards a path leading over the high mountain of Sirboon, to the head of the Sulhud Pass. Fearing it was still their design to seize that pass, I ordered fifty matchlocks to take possession of a village half way up. But there is no possibility of getting an order carried out by raw levies, and when every other attempt had failed, I got them forward by leading them on and, when well separated from their companions, pushing them forward. I was then retiring to the main body, when the people of Futteh Khan, Ghaybie, who occupied a spur of the Sirboon mountain in advance, cried out to me that if I retired they would all fly. They were so evidently in earnest, and the importance of preventing their flight was so urgent that in spite of the importance of being with the main force, I felt compelled to remain, being assured that their retreat would be a signal for the flight of the whole army. I therefore took post with my 20 remaining followers upon another spur of the Sirboon mountain. The Sikh army was now within short cannon shot. They opened their fire upon the spurs occupied by myself and Futteh Khan, and I imagine from the number of cannon shot passing over my head that they must have distinguished my person, perhaps by means of my red-coated orderlies. I looked at a high hill opposite the foremost of our barriers; Captain Nicholson had planted 200 Peshawuries there. The hill was now quite naked; the men must have been bribed to desert during the night. Captain Nicholson, seeing that a body of 1,000 Sikhs was rushing toward that hill, carried up about 50 men to strengthen it; he could

urge them forward only by presenting his pistol at their heads successively. On reaching the summit, he was in despair to find it wholly deserted, whilst the Sikh column had nearly gained the brow. He retired to make further arrangements at other posts. The small party thus left behaved very well. They did not fly until the Sikhs were within ten paces of them, and their escape had become very precarious. Their flight was a signal for the flight of our entire force, most of whom had not even seen the enemy. They occupied the strong ground where we purposed making our stand when the advanced posts should become untenable. The Sikhs were 3,000 strong with six guns and 20 zumbooras. Their cavalry was principally dismounted, their arrangements were all good, but had the 200 Peshawuries not proved faithless, the column would almost certainly have been checked. Our force amounted to about 1,400 matchlocks, scattered over an immense extent of ground, requiring at least five or six thousand men to defend it properly.

I was completely cut off by the advance of the enemy, and with much difficulty made my way to the spot where Captain Nicholson with his cavalry was covering the retreat. Long before I could reach him, the whole of our infantry had passed in their shameful flight.

It is manifest that with such materials nothing but dishonor can be expected to the British name. Had the men fought and been beaten, we might have fought again with hope of better fortune. But I have now tried them twice, and met with the most dastardly conduct on both occasions. Captain Nicholson's experience agrees with my own. They will not follow us into danger. They will not wait to see the face of an enemy. I had previously directed Lieutenant Robinson to be ready to withdraw and disperse his levies in case of our defeat, which from the first seemed too probable. We retreated by the Sulhud Pass and I sent 400 matchlocks to keep open the Khahi Baug Pass for Lieutenant Robinson.

12th September 1848—Nara.—Captain Nicholson separated from me to return to his own district. I marched to Nara. I have received a note from Sir Frederick Currie, which is the first news from Lahore for 10 or 12 days. From this I cannot learn that any force has been or is to be sent in this direction, and I know not how this rebellion is to be otherwise quelled. Lieutenant Robinson joined me without difficulty to-day.

13th September 1848—Nara, forenoon.—The heavy rain of last night has probably detained the Sikh army at Nowa Shihr. Raja Deena Nath has arrived, it is said, at Rawul Pindi.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 93.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 13th and 14th September 1848.

13th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—I have recorded in my previous diary the success of Chuttur Singh in forcing the Dumtour Pass, owing to the cowardice, and it is to be feared treachery, of our levies, who, excepting about 150, fled without waiting to see the enemy and left us to our fate. I have mentioned that Captain Nicholson returned to his own district, and that I returned to Nara to see whether the people of Huzara were disposed to maintain the contest with any vigor. I learn to-day that the people of the upper districts have generally made their submission to Chuttur Singh, and I perceive that Jehandad Khan and Goolam Khan are anxious to follow their example. A single tribe alone can be depended upon not to betray me. Captain Nicholson writes me, and I hear from several other persons, that Maharaja Goolab Singh has actually given the regiments * which Chuttur Singh wrote for to my knowledge, and that they have reached Rawul Pindi with four guns and are to advance in this direction. Raja Deena Nath is said also to have been some days at Rawul Pindi, but he has communicated neither with me nor with Captain Nicholson. It is reported that Sirdar Mhaitab Singh and Sirdar Goordut Singh, after all their professions of loyalty, contrived to have their persons seized by Aotar Singh.

14th September—Nara.—Chuttur Singh appears to have been detained at Nowa Shihr in reopening the roads and in calling in the people. I on my part have been anxiously consulting those whose fidelity can be relied on as to the chance of being supported in my footing here against the army of Chuttur Singh, and what is worse against the effects of bribery and treachery combined. The arguments of the most sanguine afford λιττλε ωπε of such Συππορτ.

There is a report that Chuttur Singh expects the Peshawur force to join him at Torbaila, and has arranged with Syud Ukbur for their

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* These regiments are of course declared to be mutinous.

reception there. If this be true, his object is to overwhelm me with numbers. All was quiet by the last news from Peshawur. But the disaster at Dumtour was not then known. I trust no hope has been built upon the mediation of Raja Deena Nath. If he had the will, he has not the power to effect any arrangement consistent with the dignity of the Government.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

It does not seem certain that Chuttur Singh will immediately advance. It is possible that he may retain Huzara until his cause is strengthened by the delay of our force.

A private note accompanies.

No. 94.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 16th September 1848.

16th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Our posts have come in regularly for some days past. But a new line may be necessary when Chuttur Singh moves to the south-east. The report that Chuttur Singh has bribed Syed Ukbur Shah to bring, over the ferries of the Indus, the Peshawur troops on their march, is so strong as to amount almost to certainty. I cannot distinctly ascertain how many of those troops are expected to mutiny. Chuttur Singh will return toward Huzara to-day I imagine, and probably be here to-morrow. His design seems to be to assemble his force upon the Indus, and march to Lahore from thence. But he will probably first make a strenuous effort to capture the British officers in Huzara.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 95.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 17th to the 19th September 1848.

17th, 18th, 19th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—I have already related that, after the shameful flight of our troops at Dumtour, Captain Nicholson and myself returned toward Hurripoor and separated, he for his own district and I for Nara according to agreement. At Nara, if anywhere, I may hope to be supported by the mountaineers in a stand

against the Sikh army. If they attack me, and my people stand, Chuttur Singh will in all probability be defeated with great slaughter, and his cause will fall to the ground. If he do not attack me, on his quitting Huzara he will leave me in possession of the district, which I imagine the Government must wish me to retain. The only persons who have gone in to the Sikhs are those zumeendars and Mulliks of villages of the plains who have scarcely an option. The whole people consider themselves especially under the protection of the British Government. They will not indeed back me in any military enterprize with the heartiness necessary to success, but they hate and dread the Sikh dominion. Were I to evacuate the country, the whole Punjaub would be affected by the movement. I have therefore sent Lieutenant Robinson to the upper districts to resume charge of them, so that if any accident befall me, our authority in Huzara may not be lost. The Sikh army apparently meditates an attack upon Attock from both sides of the river, if it fail to secure a passage higher up. My presence here has, I trust, enabled me to put serious obstacles in the way of the latter design. Twenty-four of the guns at Peshawur are said to be gained over. I trust this is not the case. But Chuttur Singh's chief reliance is upon having, through his son Goolab Singh, successfully tampered with the Native regiments at Lahore. I most earnestly beg attention to this subject. It seems scarcely credible that Chuttur Singh should venture upon such an expedition with so small an army, unless he had grounds for this hope. A letter came from Goolab Singh (his son) a few days ago urging him to hasten to Lahore, for that several of our Native regiments there were his. The letter was secured in the sole of the bearer's shoe. Maharaja Goolab Singh has paid as yet no attention to the Resident's request that he would advance me 30,000 rupees. But the request of Sirdar Chuttur Singh that he would send him certain regiments has been promptly complied with, according to my best intelligence, two corps, said to have mutinied, having come to the Sirdar's aid. Although I hope the report of our Native regiments at Lahore is untrue, yet the stake is so great that I would venture to suggest their being, if possible, so disposed of as to prevent the ill-consequences which their defection must occasion. Raja Deena Nath has communicated with Sirdar Chuttur Singh, but not with Captain Nicholson nor with me. He is raising troops at Chukkowal, who will of course join the insurgents.

A great effort was made by Chuttur Singh to bribe the Juddoons about Khubbul, &c., to give the Peshawur force free passage. I trust that my influence will prove sufficient to foil him here; and if so it seems to be his purpose to attack Attock on the eastern side of the Indus, whilst the Peshawur mutineers attack it on the west, and if successsful the whole force will march at once upon Lahore. I should fear that Chuttur Singh must have received pecuniary aid from Maharaja Goolab Singh or he would be unable to keep together his army, all the treasuries in this neighbourhood being dry.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The last two or three days in place of a Journal I have answered the Resident's notes.

Received to-day a Roobakaree from the Residency announcing some advantage gained over Moolraj by General Whish's force.

There is every reason to believe that the agent of Sirdar Goolab Singh (son of Chuttur Singh) used all his influence with the Hurripoor troops to persuade them to persist in their rebellion, stating that the Native Corps at Lahore were rotten; that there were only five Corps there, and that the British were sending away, in alarm, their wives and baggage.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 96.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 20th and 21st September 1848.

20th and 21st September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh's movements have been less rapid than was anticipated; he and his force of six regiments of infantry, 600 horse, 18 guns, 40 zumbooras and about 1,000 matchlocks arrived on 20th, and encamped at Hurripoor. They were busied all day with preparations for a march. The prevailing report says that if on reaching Hussun Ubdal or Huzroo they find the Sikh force at Peshawur on the move, that then they will simultaneously attack Attock from both sides of the river; that if disappointed in the Peshawur force they will march at once upon Lahore. On the night of the 19th Chuttur Singh fired a salute, some say upon the death of Serjeant Denton, drowned in a captured boat off Attock, others that it

was in honor of two despatches, the one from Cashmere assuring the Sirdar that 40,000 rupees had been despatched to him and that the Jumboo army should march on his reaching Jelum, the other from Mooltan informing him of a great victory to the united arms of Raja Shere Singh and Moolraj. Chuttur Singh is halted still on the 21st at Hurripoor. Should he attack Nara, I have good hope that my people will stand, in which case I trust to break the neck of this rebellion. It is a season of much anxiety to me, as treachery is around my camp, and I have twice been deserted in the conflict by my men. I do not think there is much fear of the Peshawur force effecting a passage above Attock.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 97.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 22nd and 23rd September 1848.

22nd September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh's camp is still halted at Hurripoor within sight of my position, which is the foot of the Gundgurh mountain. We expected to be attacked last night or this morning and were on the *qui vive.* I trust my people will fulfil their solemn promise of standing manfully, in which case I trust to inflict upon the Sirdar a blow which will not be easily recovered. He has six regiments, about 600 horse, 1,000 matchlocks, and 11 guns and 40 zumbooras. A couple of British regiments with three guns and 200 horse would, I doubt not, rout them all. Had I a single regiment here to lead the way my people would probably follow. But they have no confidence in the plain against guns and cavalry.

23rd September—Nara.—Chuttur Singh remains halted at Hurripoor. Last night we were again on the alert. He made an unsuccessful effort to relieve the Sherwaun garrison, his party being driven back by the Tunnolees A party of his son, Aotar Singh, sent against Syudpoor were defeated a day or two ago. The head of their leader has just been brought me. I have ordered that it be burnt after Sikh usage instead of suspending it as my people wish. We war not with the widow and fatherless. Numbers of the people of the plain from fear of the Sikhs or from jealousy of my adherents have been aiding the Sirdar. This is

what I have chiefly to apprehend. They have means and knowledge highly valuable to the enemy. But for this I should have little apprehension. I destroyed another boat to-day with infinite difficulty. I hope I have succeeded with another. The independent tribes on the Indus are extremely jealous of their boats, and Chuttur Singh has been bribing royally to obtain them for his own or the Peshawur force. I read with much concern of the resolution of General Whish. I supposed that every one was prepared to see Raja Shere Singh take a step confidently expected of him by the Sikh army in Huzara from the outset.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

P. S.—A letter just received φρομ μααραξα γυλαβ σιγγ νοτεσ θη δησπατχ το μη οφ ρυπησ XXVM. When it reaches me I shall be better able to appreciate the loan.

No. 98.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 24th September 1848.

24th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—We have been on the alert for the last three nights in expectation of an attack, and Chuttur Singh, it is said, speaks confidently of attacking my position to-morrow or the next day. When I returned from the shameful affair at Dumtour, I assembled the people of the Gundgurh mountain, and after reminding them that my presence in Huzara was solely for their protection, and assuring them I would not remain an hour longer than they desired, put it to them whether I should make my seat here or retire to some other place. One and all implored me to remain. I replied that I would not remain to be dishonored a third time by the cowardice of my followers, that if I staid and exposed my life for them, I expected them to stand by me, to the death. They all solemnly vowed they would do so, and I consented to remain. This mountain is a haunted spot. It has been carried but once and then by an overwhelming army and the aid of treachery. Could we be sure that treachery will not aid the intended assault, we might be pretty confident of successful resistance, for the people have their wives and families here. I think, I should be wrong to forfeit the chance, for if defeated Chuttur Singh's cause is lost. If I fall, the loss to my country is one individual, the least worthy of her sons.

I have destroyed I trust another boat upon the Indus. There is a good deal of dissatisfaction in the Sikh camp, which is in sight.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 99.–Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 25th and 26th September 1848.

25th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—The camp of Chuttur Singh remains at Hurripoor for the Sradh. Reports vary every hour. There has been great difficulty in providing a garrison for Hurkishengurh. No one will willingly remain in the assurance of being besieged the instant his force marches. In this dilemma the Sirdar summoned the punchayut, and explaining the difficulty put it to them whether they could quit Huzara without attacking my position. The resolution seems to have been in favor of an attack and we have been on the alert in consequence. But nothing certain is known.

26th September—Nara.—Bad news from Lahore or Mooltan is said to have reached Chuttur Singh. His troops are reported to be much divided by dissensions, and disgusted by the want of pay. The Peshawur force, I believe, shows no great readiness to move. It may be doubted whether they will move unless he take Attock, or whether he would venture to attack that fort without aid from Peshawur. Aotar Singh's levies have been shamefully defeated by a handful of Gukhas. It is said that the letters urging him to march upon Lahore have been succeeded by others informing him that that move is now too late, owing to the large number of British troops arrived and arriving there; and counselling him to take post at Karoo Khowta, and there raise revenue for his maintenance. All my property left at Hurripoor, and that of Lieutenant Robinson, was plundered by the Sikhs a day or two ago. Two of my bungalows they had previously destroyed; some Government instruments have I fear been seized. The camp is still at Hurripoor.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 100.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 27th and 28th September 1848.

27th September 1848—Huzara.—The camp of Chuttur Singh was not moved to-day, but remains at Hurripoor. Of two boats that were at Khubbul, one was seized and taken to Attock by a son of Ursulla Khan. For the destruction of the second I paid about 500 rupees to the owners, but instead of breaking up or burning the boat according to agreement, they merely sunk it. Syud Ukbur of Sythana fished it up again for Sirdar Chuttur Singh, but I rather hope the Khubbulites recovered it from his clutches. I am doing my best to destroy it. The Sikh camp is positively to march to-morrow, some say in this direction, others that it will move on Chuch.

I deeply regret to have to record a most lamentable occurrence under this date. The garrisons of three neighbouring forts had submitted to me, and had received certain advances of pay with purwanas upon the Chuch Kardar for two months more, and promissory notes for the payment of all arrears when the country should be settled, upon condition of their not taking service with Chuttur Singh. These men after the most solemn promises of compliance went with one accord over to the enemy. The circumstance caused great indignation in my camp. The garrison of Sherwaun being proved to be in correspondence with Chuttur Singh, it was necessary to relieve it, and I ordered it accordingly to Nara. Ten or twelve of the men were in the act of deserting from thence when I heard of it, and sent a party to arrest them. In an instant the report of treachery circulated through my camp, and that I had ordered the garrison to be plundered. My undisciplined levies fell upon the unfortunate men who were cooking their food, or otherwise engaged, and they were stripped of their arms and property, which were carried up into the mountain. Several were mercilessly cut down, apparently unresisting. The confusion was such that my presence could not for a long time appease it, and all my efforts to recover property have proved hitherto but partially successful, the men having no barracks, camp nor lines, but occupying posts upon the mountains. This melancholy affair has opprest me with the most painful and anxious thought and proved in an impressive manner the misery of commanding an armed force which will not follow me into

danger, but is ready at a moment's notice to wreak its vengeance upon the helpless and unoffending. The men were not Sikhs but Hindoos of all castes.

28th September 1848—Nara.—Chuttur Singh, after destroying my bungalow at Hurripoor, marched this morning half a *koss* upon the Hussun or Margulla road, and is encamped there in sight. Report speaks variously of his immediate designs, some saying that he will attack my position and others that he will continue his march. His halt after one mile of march appears to argue the receipt of unexpected intelligence after having started. But as yet I have no other authority for this supposition.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 101.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 29th September 1848.

29th September 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh marched with his whole force this morning about nine miles in a southerly direction, intending, it is believed, to proceed to Chuch, and thence perhaps to Attock. A good deal of dissension prevails in his camp. The report all yesterday of his intention to attack my position was strong; and we were all on the alert, until his columns were seen fairly progressing southwards. As he could not make up his mind to attack my 1,000 matchlocks, with his six regiments, cavalry, and guns, he vented his spleen upon my bungalow at Hurripoor, the third which the Sikh soldiery have destroyed. Intercepted a letter this morning, from Khan-i-Zeman Khan of Gundgurh to Chuttur Singh referring to intrigues of the latter long previous to this outbreak, urging him to attack Attock without delay and promising him, so soon as the Peshawur force should join Chuttur Singh, to kill me, and to place Huzara in his power. This Khan-i-Zeman Khan is the chief whom I restored to his long-forfeited patrimony. The letter is valuable as another proof that Chuttur Singh was intriguing with the chiefs of Huzara previous to the outbreak. Report says that Fatteh Khan of Ghayb, who was in like manner restored to his lost patrimony by Captain Nicholson, has made to Chuttur Singh a similar promise respecting that officer's life. Such are the men for and with whom we are fighting.

Chuttur Singh, previous to his march this day assembled the zumeendars of the neighbourhood and told them on no account to pay any revenue to me, on pain of his displeasure, saying, "I march now upon Attock which I shall attack and take, and carry over the Peshawur force in boats; and if I fail to take it I will waft over the Peshawur army upon rafts of inflated skins. In any case, I will bring them over, and when they are over, I will attack and take Gundgurh and Srikote. I will on no account march southward, until I have settled the Gundgurh mountain." The people whom he ordered to garrison the Fort of Hurkishengurh fled from it yesterday, the instant he marched, which, it is said, was the cause of so small a stage (one mile).

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 102.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, from the 1st to the 4th October 1848.

1st and 2nd October 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Sirdar Chuttur Singh is with his whole force at Banbera separating the baggage, which is to be left at Kala Seraie. He is then to return to Chuch, or to invest Attock. There are reports in his camp, confidently believed, that the guards of the land gate have promised him admittance. I have written to warn Mr. Herbert, and to suggest that the gate be built up at once; and as other reports attribute treachery to his golundauze, I have suggested that a staunch guard be posted at each gun, apparently for the protection of the ramparts, but really to prevent treachery, and to see that the golundauze do not fire wide. Chuttur Singh, unless joined by the Peshawur force, will not I think cross the Jelum. His friends in Lahore tell him it is too late, according to my best information, and he is evidently preparing to hold possession of this Dooab by the arrangements he is making for retaining forts, appointing tehseeldars, etc. He purposes holding Huzara, although the revenue is so trifling. Should the Peshawur force join, it is impossible to say where the *punches* may direct the army, very probably upon Mooltan. The resolution of the officer commanding there to raise the siege, without even attempting with his powerful train to gain possession of the city, must of course greatly

prejudice our cause throughout the Punjaub; and here especially where our power has hitherto been so respected. With possession of the city of Mooltan we could have prolonged the preliminaries of the siege of the fortress, without any symptom of weakness, and until succour should have arrived. And it is impossible to imagine that any town wall, however well defended, could long resist the attack of two British brigades, with a powerful siege train, supported by 18,000 brave allies.

It is important that the rebellion in this Dooab should be speedily put down, or it may spread to other parts. The difficulty with the insurgents is their want of treasure. But if allowed peaceful possession, they will collect the whole revenue of these districts. The first instalment of this season is just due, and whatever they collect is deducted from our Treasury. Our adherents are disheartened at being left two months to struggle against a regular army, without even the prospect of succour, and more importance attaches just now to the possession of Huzara than may at first sight appear.

3rd October 1848—Nara.—Chuttur Singh marched with his force, including his battering guns, to Puthurgurh close to Hussun Ubdal, where he is making collections, destroying the crops of those who refuse to pay and burning, it is said, their houses. The disposition to resist payment is general, and many have fled. But they are without prospect of support, and will, I suppose, all eventually submit.

4th October—Nara.—My news from the Sikh camp is not yet in. There appears to be no doubt that it is moving either upon Attock or upon the Nilab Ferry. I earnestly hope the boats have been secured at the latter. I was not aware that there was a practicable route to Peshawur *viâ* Nilab, and therefore have never enquired. But I presume this must be known to the officers in charge of Peshawur, and Sinde Sagar. Lieutenant Herbert assures me the gateway shall be immediately built up.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 103.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 5th and 6th October 1848.

5th October 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh appears to be marching steadily upon Attock invited, say his men, by the officers in charge of one of the gates who have promised to open to him. I have recommended Lieutenant Herbert to have the inner cavity of the land gate built up with dry masonry to the depth of 10 or 12 feet, and to exclude from the fortress every Sikh whatever, planting guards also near the several guns. Nevertheless, I feel uneasy about the fate of a fort upon which so great a stake is hazarded. No Lahore dak has reached me for several days, owing perhaps to Captain Nicholson's eccentric movement.

6th October—Nara.—Late in the night the Lahore post of the— came in bringing me from Mr. Inglis some particulars of our force at Mooltan. I believe a single brigade has been sent to strengthen it. If two British brigades with 20,000 allies and a battering train are insufficient to carry a simple gothic wall without outworks or ditch, and of no considerable altitude, it appears to me very doubtful whether three brigades will suffice to storm a fortress of such acknowledged strength as that of Mooltan, especially as the mortars of the siege train are manifestly insufficient for the work in hand. I hazard this opinion in the hope of being useful. I thought two brigades too small a force to isolate at Mooltan with the assurance I have long possest that Sher Singh's force would sooner or later join the enemy. But I never conjectured that a town wall would have arrested two brigades and 20,000 brave allies. The moral effect of this arrest will I fear prove disastrous. The news found Chuttur Singh's army disheartened and divided, and in some danger of falling to pieces. It was celebrated as a victory, restored their union and their confidence, and so dispirited our party here, that I have since heard of nothing but secret offers of my partizans to join the enemy. Of course its effect at Peshawur must be in proportion, all which had been saved, and a sensible blow had besides been struck, had the city been carried at once by the combined armies.

With regard to the Sikh army westward of the Jelum, the union of the Peshawur force with Chuttur Singh's must be regarded as a

strong probability. The existence of the latter force depends upon this union, and they will effect it if within the limits of the possible. What may be the movement of the united force cannot be determined. It may remain westward of the Jelum collecting the revenue of Potowar and Peshawur, or it may be hurled at Lahore or at Mooltan. If, then, the Mooltan force were strengthened by two more brigades from Bombay, and the Lahore force were at once to advance before the Sikh army had had time to make extensive collections (cash being the chief want of Chuttur Singh), or to establish a settled government of its own in these parts, the whole insurrection might be easily swept down. If time is permitted to pass away unimproved by our advance (and already the insurgents have been two months in the field) the strength of the rebels may go on increasing daily, as heretofore, until it became really formidable. Chuttur Singh's present system is evidently to conquer and keep possession of as much country as possible of this Dooab and to exclude the British from it. He himself has no idea of advancing upon Lahore, although a Sikh Punchayut might produce such a movement.

I would above all advert to the necessity of securing the collections of all rich tracts by multiplying British agents, each with a couple of hundred horse and as many matchlocks, in all districts unoccupied by the enemy.

The people of the country are all our friends, excepting of course in Sikh districts, which are very rare; and where they have the choice will always pay to British authority. The expense of this is not worthy of consideration, the great object being to deprive the enemy of the sinews of war and to render it impossible for him to collect without dividing his force *ad infinitum*. Our communications would thus be kept open, and a correspondence maintained with the people which may be of the greatest advantage.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Our reports speak of the steady advance of Chuttur Singh's force upon Attock.

No. 104.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 7th October 1848.

7th October 1848—Nara, Huzara.—Under yesterday's date I presumed to offer some remarks upon the state of the rebellion in these parts, but as the daks are liable to interruption I take the liberty of recapitulating.

Chuttur Singh with his force of 6 regiments, 600 horse, 2,000 matchlocks, 6 breaching and about 10 field guns is encamped at Shumsabad close to the river Indus and within a march of Attock; at present a couple of Sipahi regiments and four guns might scatter his whole army and dissolve the rebellion. But this rebellion has been on foot two months and I have no certain intelligence of the advance of British troops. The collections of the season are just commencing and he has entire possession of them. Thus his greatest need is supplied. The people of the country regard him as a robber and pay unwillingly, expecting that our army will advance. He has as yet no hold upon the country, but every day for the last month past has strengthened his position and every coming day that he is unopposed must make his footing firmer. His first idea was to hurry down to Lahore. But this seems to have been abandoned since the news of our reinforcement at that city, and so far as I can learn he has no intention of crossing the Jelum even should the Peshawur force join him. The junction of this force with his must be regarded as a strong probability. We have seen six corps join his standard in spite of the opposition in many cases of their officers. Opportunity alone seems wanting to make every Sikh corps in the service side with the mutineers, and Chuttur Singh and his force are so desperate without aid from Peshawur that they will risk everything to obtain it.

The question then is whether to allow this rebellion, at present so easily put down, to grow into something formidable or by a prompt advance to scatter it in its weakness. The whole country of Huzara were our troops at hand, would rise to aid them; at present only a few of the people of the hills back me, and the continuance of their support must depend upon the advance of our forces.

The Mooltan siege might be aided by troops from Bombay. The advance of the Bengal force in this direction appears to me to be urgently required; every day increases Chuttur Singh's treasury and makes him more dangerous.

Above all it seems to me that the promptest measures should be taken to prevent the treasure of this Dooab from falling into his hands by multiplying British agents, each with a small force of irregular horse and matchlocks, who might take their several posts as our troops advance. The absence at this moment of Captain Lumsden from the Eusufzye country may (it is too much to be feared) open the road to a junction of the Peshawur troops with Chuttur Singh. I mention this, which I have so often before adverted to, to show the extreme importance of British agency. The people honor and respect our Government, and wherever there is a British officer he becomes a focus of power for our cause.

Were Captain Lumsden at this moment in the Eusufzye country the junction of the two Sikh forces were hopeless.

Chuttur Singh and his force are halting, it is said, for the Dussaira at Shumsabad, close to the Indus and one march from Attock. Report says he has sent a band of horse to Nilab to take possession of two boats secured there for him by the chief, Jafir Khan, Kuttuk. But I trust our officers have not left any for him there. He is expecting the Peshawur force to join him and is making collections of the revenue.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 105.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 8th October 1848.

8th October 1848.—Nara, Huzara.—Sirdar Chuttur Singh and his force were yesterday at Shumsabad, but the camp has disappeared and he has marched I believe upon Attock. Report says that two boats have been furnished him at Nilab and two at a ferry of the Loondai. He is bent upon effecting a junction with the Peshawur Brigade, and it is too probable that he will succeed. His after purpose is not certain, but from what I learn I infer that he wishes to establish himself in this Dooab. A Sikh Punchayut may any day subvert such a purpose.

His orders are issued in the name of Maharaja Dhulleep Singh and he has assumed, I understand, the office of Regent. Thus a rebellion which at first was contemptible, and which at this moment two Sipahie regiments and four guns could scatter, has gradually in the course of two months of our inaction become a revolution which a strong army will be needed to quell. Barring treachery Attock might repel the insurgents, but treachery is a weapon familiar to Sikh hands, and reports of treachery in the garrison are rife. Without taking Attock, however, it is probable that Chuttur Singh will effect a junction, and the conseqences should be provided for without delay. Report says that the Bunnoo force is in open mutiny. This I have long anticipated, but I do not think the orginal design of the conspirators included the Sikh force, at least I could learn nothing certain of their disaffection.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 106.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation to Huzara, for the 11th October 1848.

11th October 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—Lieutenant Herbert informs me that several of my letter bags for Lahore have been returned to him owing to some obstruction on the road. Chuttur Singh has been about a week in Chuch encamped near the Indus, searching for fords and for boats and collecting wood for rafts. Yesterday report said that he had found a ford, deep indeed and dangerous, but that two sowars had actually passed over by it. If Major Lawrence has sent any matchlocks to oppose the landing of his people it will be difficult, if possible, for them to use a ford such as this is described to be; but it must be remembered that life, fame and fortune are in one stake, and that the most desperate effort will be made to cross the army. No precaution, therefore, should be neglected. We hear that Aotar Singh, with a force estimated variously as of 2,000 or 4,000 men, is on his road to Huzara to make collections and hold possession of the valley. The importance of an advance of our troops in this direction appears to me great. Chuttur Singh is at present regarded by the people as a rebel whose course will be immediately cut short. The zumeendars pay their rents to him with the utmost reluctance and often prefer sacrificing house and crops. His weak point was his empty treasury. His troops were on the point of

separating from him from want of pay and from the hopelessness of their prospects. He has been allowed, however, more than two months' leisure to recruit his treasury and is collecting the rents throughout these districts. The people hear nothing of our troops and gradually will give up our cause for want of encouragement. With the revenues of Peshawur and of this Dooab he will become really formidable. The advance a fortnight ago of a strong brigade, even as far as Jelum, would have dissolved this rebellion *in toto.* The troops were ready to fly upon a rumour. They had no hope and no prospect of pay. They listened readily to my remonstrances. Huzara was ready to rise to join any British force. But the people of the valleys dare not rise when there is no effectual support at hand. Chuttur Singh would have been an outcast had a single brigade then been sent. I would not have proposed to isolate one brigade. Another might have followed with all speed and the first might have halted at Jelum for the second. Assurance was all that was then needed to prevent any zumeendar from paying his rents and to prevent the Peshawur force from thinking of joining the insurrection, but the suggestions of Major Lawrence, Captain Nicholson and myself have not been acted upon. With assurance of reaping the revenues of this Dooab we could afford to increase our levies and distract the enemy's attention by threatening him on several quarters at once, and might retain the greater part of the Dooab in subjection.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 107.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation, Huzara, for the 16th October 1848.

16th October 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—For several days past we have made no attempt to send letters by the dak, several of our packets being detained at Attock. There appears, however, some possibility that the road may again be open although it cannot long remain so. I am not sure that I have recorded the arrival at my camp of Bukshie—, as Vuqueel from the Maharaja Goolab Singh. He is profuse in assurances of the friendly disposition of his master; disclaims for him all connection with Chuttur Singh; allows that there has been the closest intimacy, but states that the conduct of the Sirdar on several trying occasions

put an end to their friendship. He offers freely the use of the Jumboo troops, guns and treasury for my aid; denies the reports that any of the Jumboo regiments have joined Chuttur Singh, but allows that a corps of about 200 dismist some months ago for mutiny and disarmed has gone over to the rebels. I trust that the strong sense of the Maharaja will keep him to his professions. He certainly has promptly answered my application for money and for guns, although the former is of only half the amount I asked for.

Chuttur Singh was yesterday nearly *in statu quo*, that is close to Shumsabad, about six miles above Attock. He has not discovered any practicable ford, and the passage upon skin rafts, with the chance of opposition on the other side, is very dangerous as a matchlock bullet may sink a raft. He sent again a deputation nominally for the relief of the garrison of Simulkund, who were supposed to be straitened for water. I allowed it to proceed in consideration of the earnest wish of Lieutenant Herbert, though I had no idea that it would succeed. His emissaries, instead of persuading the garrison to surrender, ordered them to hold out. This is the second time the same treachery has been practised, and it seems to be a rule, without exceptions, that nothing said or done by a Sikh is ever what it appears. There seems to be no longer any idea of crossing the Jelum. The Bunnoo troops will join Chuttur Singh and both will endeavour to form a junction with those of Peshawur. How urgently the advance of our army is required I need not say; nothing else can preserve the Peshawur troops in their allegiance or prevent the widespread disorder and rebellion. Report says that Futteh Khan, Tewana, has been murdered. A week or two before the outbreak in Huzara I wrote to warn him of a design upon his life, but my messenger never returned and was probably waylaid. Had the warning reached him it might have prevented the tragedy. The plot was concocted by the Officer Commanding the Artillery at Bunnoo, a son of General Sooltan Maimood in Huzara, who has been an active agent here. Yesterday we received about five days' dak packets, that had been detained on the road, giving news from Lahore to the 8th. There are still disturbances in Gilgit, where the Maharaja's General has been killed. Two regiments have been sent to quell them. I imagine it is the intention of Chuttur Singh to attack my position from the western side by his retention of the Simulkund Fort. I have just driven the

garrison out of the Fort Dunna with great loss, capturing the *zumbooras.* They were alarmed, sallied out in the attempt to escape, were met by a party of my people under Peer Buksh Khan, Mullal, and routed with much slaughter. The Thanadar, a relative of Chuttur Singh, is captured. The fort is one of the most important in Huzara, and being at the back of Chuttur Singh's jaghirs he was anxious to retain it.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 108.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation, Huzara, for the 25th and 26th October 1848.

25th October 1848—Nara, Huzara.—The camp of Chuttur Singh marched to-day to Daman on the road to Hussun Ubdal. Rumour says that two sowars brought news from Raja Shere Singh which caused this move and that the Peshawur force have positively refused to join him.

26th October.—Heavy rain all last night which has probably caused a halt. Two notes from the Resident reached me to-day,—the one by a messenger dated the 10th, the other by Maharaja Goolab Singh's Vuqueel dated the 11th, informing me that no accounts had been received at Lahore from Peshawur, Attock, or Huzara, since the 1st instant. A letter from Lieutenant Herbert, commanding in Attock, mentions that he had not received his usual letter from Peshawur and that a report had reached him *οφ θη μυτινί οφ θη τρωπσ ανδ καπτυρε οφ μαιορ λαρενσ* which he was disposed to credit. This evening a strong report reached me from the western bank of the river that the removal of Chuttur Singh from the river's brink was in consequence of the request of the Peshawur troops who urged *θατ βι σο δοινγ η ωολδ θροω θη μαιορ οφ ισ γαρδ ανδ εναβλε θη μυτινηρσ το σεισε ισ περσον.* I thought it extraordinary that Chuttur Singh had so soon desisted from his endeavours, knowing of what vital importance his success must be to his cause and the disposition of a part at least of the Peshawur force, and I greatly fear the true explanation is before us and that Major Lawrence has fallen into the snare. Sikh treachery is a thing beyond the comprehension of an European. All this danger had been saved by the timely advance of even a portion of our army or its assembly at Wuzeerabad or Ramnuggur instead of at Ferozepore. I wrote in quadruplicate my account of the

affair between Chuttur Singh's force and my matchlocks at Simulkund so that I hope one copy has reached the Residency. The loss of the enemy seems to have been under-rated rather than exaggerated, and all seem to regard it as a triumph on our part. At any rate all was done that was possible upon such ground against so superior a force, and the Sikhs are as much disgusted at the affair as my people are elated. The Maharaja Goolab Singh informs me through his Vuqueel that he has received the Resident's instructions to attack Chuttur Singh, and asks my advice as to the mode. But as I have no hint of such a wish from the Resident, I have declined offering any advice. I would rather not have the Jumboo troops just now in Huzara, and although I believe the Maharaja to be too wise to engage in such a plot as that of Chuttur Singh, yet I think the employment of his troops in this campaign attended with hazard.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Our Post Office letters and papers I beg to suggest may be sent through the Vuqueel of the Maharaja Goolab Singh, who has undertaken to forward all despatches. *P. S.*—An urzee from the Chief, Ameer Khan of Oond, has just arrived stating that a rebellion has broken out at Peshawur. It is stated that guns were heard this morning in the direction of the Sikh camp: a *Shellak* or salute probably in joy of the success of Sikh treachery.

No. 109.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, on deputation, Huzara, for the 30th October 1848.

30th October 1848—Nara, Huzara.—A man just returned by his own account from Peshawur gives a somewhat different version of the outbreak there. He says that Lieutenant Bowie was returning from the bath when some Sikhs endeavoured to seize him, but that he put spurs to his horse and escaped to the mansion; that Major Lawrence, who was still in the bath, got intelligence of what had happened and reached home by a different route; that for two days the Sikhs were trying to win over the Nujjeebs, and that Major Lawrence was vainly endeavouring to persuade them to fire upon the Sikhs; that during the third night, finding himself without support, Major Lawrence departed with

Lieutenant Bowie and Dr. Thomson so secretly that his guards were not aware of his departure until next morning, when the army attacked his house; that Sooltan Muhammad Khan sent his son with Major Lawrence, who is at Kohat. The latter part of the story seems doubtful, as the report is strong that Major Lawrence is in the mountains of the Afreedis. The Peshawur force by the latest accounts is said to be marching to the Bazour ferry to join Chuttur Singh, whose camp is reported to be waiting for it on the eastern bank. It is strange that no note from any of the party has yet reached us. The Barukzyes are no doubt in the conspiracy; long before the insurrection in Huzara Chuttur Singh was in constant correspondence with them. So far as we can learn he purposes making an attempt to secure my person, or drive me out of Huzara, and will then march toward Lahore. The place of assembly is believed to be Gujerat, and the Sikhs give out that it is chosen for convenience of aid from Jumboo. The Maharaja has forwarded me the Resident's Roobakaree, directing him to assemble troops at Meerpoor Chowmook, and to attack Chuttur Singh upon the Jelum, and referring to me for advice. I confess I think the experiment hazardous. The Maharaja has no army capable of coping with the Sikh force in its present strength. It is very doubtful whether his soldiers would fight against the Sikhs in a cause which has become national. They are so ill-paid that there is much danger of defection, and although I can scarcely believe that the Maharaja would endanger his own kingdom by mixing in such an insurrection, yet I conceive that the risk should not be run of bringing his troops as allies into the field, or allowing him just now to assemble or move troops upon the southern frontier. Any such movement were he not expected to aid, would put us upon our guard. At present we have no index of his disposition. Were Shere Singh not upon the Chenab, a force of four or five thousand men might render the crossing of the Jelum difficult. But at present they can do nothing useful that I know of. I would urgently bring to notice the dangers we have so narrowly escaped, and the confusion that has arisen by employing any but British troops to quell this insurrection. The relations hitherto borne between *μααραξα γυλαβ σινγ ανδ χυττυρ σινγ αρε θωσε οφ φαθερ ανδ σον.* At Attock all was well on the 29th.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,

Assistant Resident.

The report here is strong that the Sikhs of the Manjha have promised to rise and join the insurrection; a strong force for them and for Jullundhur should be under arms, and Lahore should on no account be left weak.

J. ABBOTT.

No. 110.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 14th December 1848.

14th December 1848—Srikote.—At length intelligence from Peshawur has reached me upon which I think I can rely. Chuttur Singh actually gave all lands westward of the Jelum to the Barukzye Sirdars; it is even said that he promised them Cashmere. The Sirdars accordingly wrote to the Huzara chiefs directing them to seize and deliver me up. Some of their purwanas were brought me, others have been withheld. On the arrival, however, of Dost Muhammad Khan on the 18th at Peshawur, the Sirdars fled. The Emir seized all Peshawur as his own, appointed his grandson chief of the Adalut, and his son Chief Governor; demanded of Chuttur Singh all the stores of the fortress removed by him, or four lacs of rupees instead, and a lac of rupees for each day's march from Cabul, and insisted as a preliminary upon the surrender to him of the British Officers. Accordingly it is said a body of Doorani and Sikh Horse has been sent to bring them back to Peshawur. It is believed that the Emir will demand as his right all territory to the Jelum and the whole of Cashmere. On the 12th, Khan-i-Zeman Khan, Chief of Gundgurh, brought me a purwana to his address bearing the seal of the Emir, ordering him to return to his allegiance to Chuttur Singh, and to seize and deliver up me and Mr. Ingram. I was a little surprised at this, as I supposed the Emir had felt enough of our power to keep clear of our enmity. The seal, however, exhibits no appearance of forgery. I received a hint some days ago from Cashmere that Maharaja Goolab Singh was suspicious of the intentions of the Dooranis and anxious to strengthen the garrison of Moozuffurabad; but I regarded this expression of mistrust as a mere excuse for planting more troops in a suspicious post at a critical moment. News of our success in crossing the Chenab and putting to

flight Sher Singh's army reached me on the 12th. I fired a salute that evening. As a salute was fired at Attock during the night, I trust that Lieutenant Herbert has also received the intelligence. Many of his garrison have deserted. Some were lately caught in the act, disarmed, it is said, branded and turned out; others, it is said, were killed by the fire from the fort whilst making off. Chuttur Singh has seized the families of many of them, and our slow progress has apparently disheartened them. So far as I can gather from native accounts, there are before the fort the two Nujjeeb battalions, Colonel Richpal Singh's, Pertab Singh's and Boodh Singh's regiments and ten guns. The blockade is maintained, but the guns rarely fire. I have sent Lieutenant Robinson of Engineers through the Jumboo territory to join the army, as he possesses valuable information relating to the theatre of war. His services have been most zealous and efficient. For many weeks he had charge of the blockade of the Pukli Field Force, and his arrangements showed great skill and judgment. They were defeated by the poltroonery of our levies at Dumtour, after the flight of which it was necessary to break up the blockade. Lieutenant Robinson ought to have reached the army on or about the 8th or 9th instant. His passage through the Jumboo territory will enable him to understand the state of feeling in that quarter. It is scarcely possible that the Maharaja should desire the Dooranis as next door neighbours considering their claims upon Cashmere.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 111.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 15th December 1848.

15th December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—According to information which I consider trustworthy, Dost Muhammad Khan reached Peshawur on the 8th and took possession of the Bala Hissar, the Barukzye Sirdars flying to their several jaghirs. He appointed the son of Muhammad Ukbur, chief of the Adalut, and his son Hydur Khan, Governor of Peshawur, seizing the whole district as his own.

A letter bearing the Ummir's seal addrest to Khan-i-Zeman Khan, Chief of Gundgarh, was brought me, ordering that Chief to seize and

surrender my person. Two others have this day been sent me from his son and grandson to the same Chief, directing his personal attendance upon the Ummir previous to the fall of Attock. These last are written in the tone of one who would incite to a holy war, as the most unholy of crimes is misnamed.

Previous to the Ummir's arrival, Chuttur Singh had made over all territory westward of the Jelum to the Sirdars, and they had addrest the Huzara Chiefs in the style of sovereigns, ordering them to seize or to expel me. Report says that Chuttur Singh even gave them Cashmere, but it is difficult to credit this. The purwana of the Ummir, if genuine, of which there is every appearance, is a startling document little to be expected from one so wary and so well acquainted with our power and resources, who has hitherto resisted the strongest incentives of others to embrace our enmity. On the other hand, report obstinately affirms that his foremost stipulation was the surrender to him of the British Officers in order apparently to liberate them, and that a party of Sikh and Doorani Horse have been actually sent to bring them back. It is also affirmed that he has demanded of Chuttur Singh four lacs of rupees in lieu of the Government stores removed by him and a lac of rupees for each day's march from Cabul. So far as I can learn Chuttur Singh sent for him in order to frighten the Sirdars into the surrender of Major Lawrence. Having accomplished his purpose, he wrote begging the Ummir not to come. But the latter replied that he had assembled an army at great expense and marched with it several marches, and that he should consult his own convenience upon the subject. The current report is that Chuttur Singh is preparing to return to the Indus; others say that he is in arrest, but this report, which has been so often repeated, appears to have no solid foundation.

A body of matchlockmen, whom I had sent to Hurripoor to collect revenue, had an affair to-day with the garrison of Hurkishengurh, which is five or six hundred strong, and drove them out of the town and back into the fort with great slaughter.

The skirmish lasted several hours, but the particulars have not yet reached me. The blockade of Attock is maintained, but there is little if any firing. I have no news from Lieutenant Herbert since the 5th, but as he fired a salute on the night of the 12th, I trust he has heard

of our passage of the Chenab. A large number of his garrison have deserted and speedy advance is of the utmost importance to encourage the remainder.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No troops have advanced to Moozuffurabad according to the latest account. The report of their advance was strong.

No. 112.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 18th December 1848.

18th December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh and Dost Muhammad Khan have actually arrived, the former at Jhangeera, the latter at the Indus, northward of the Loondai river. The Ummir has with him about 3,000 men and guns, and has come with the avowed purpose of aiding Chuttur Singh. From Moozuffurabad I learn that the Vuqueels of Dost Muhammad Khan and Sirdar Chuttur Singh entered Cashmere lately, disguised as merchants. The Vuqueels of Chuttur Singh and of Moolraj are confidently reported to be resident in Cashmere, their names are even mentioned. The junction of the Ummir with the Sikhs appeared a most improbable thing. Yet it has happened. The junction of Maharaja Goolab Singh seems also improbable for the same reasons of self-interest, but we must not be astonished if it should take place. A disagreeable report reached me yesterday that Lieutenant Robinson had been imprisoned by one of the hill tribes in the Maharaja's country. I trust there is no truth in the rumor, but some suspicious circumstances have made me uneasy about it. I have received no letter from Lieutenant Robinson since the 3rd March from Moozuffurabad. The Maharaja's writer, or at least a newswriter at Cashmere, wrote some time after his departure to say the Maharaja had shaped out for him a particular route. I replied to the Vuqueel that I hoped he had given Lieutenant Robinson timely intelligence; it struck me at the time as an excuse for any difficulties Lieutenant Robinson might experience. A few days ago the Vuqueel remarked to me that Lieutenant Robinson had not taken the route prescribed by the Maharaja. I replied that probably the advice had not reached him in time, and again I felt uneasy. All the hill tribes, disobedient to the Maharaja, regard us as their

protectors, and none of them would molest Lieutenant Robinson nor any British Officer unless incited by authority; and I regard it as quite impossible that Lieutenant Robinson's progress should be impeded without the Maharaja's express, however secret, order. I trust, however, that Lieutenant Robinson has reached his destination in safety. If otherwise, I earnestly hope warning will be taken and the campaign be regulated to guard against assault from the mountains. I mentioned in yesterday's Journal that a writer at Cashmere had informed me of the defection of a Sikh regiment there; that the Maharaja had wished to disarm them, but had not done so; and that they were deserting fast to join Chuttur Singh. Surely a little energy would have sufficed to disarm them. Mr. Inglis' note of the 1st has just reached me *viâ* Cashmere, his previous favor was of the 27th. In my former Journals I have noted the receipt of purwanas addrest to two of the Huzara Chiefs and bearing the seal of the Ummir, directing them to seize and surrender my person and that of Mr. Ingram and to return to their allegiance to Chuttur Singh. I had hoped they were forgeries, but to-day's intelligence proves their authenticity. The bribe offered to Dost Muhammad Khan is, so far as I can learn, all territory west of the Jelum—a tempting bribe certainly. We shall see whether it can be realized. I have no late news from Lieutenant Herbert nor from any of the prisoners. Not knowing what may be the plan of the campaign, I trust I shall be favored with explicit instructions how to act.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

It seems to me highly improbable that the Ummir should plunge into war with the British unless assured of support from Jumboo.

No. 113.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 19th December 1848.

19th December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—I hasten to qualify my report of yesterday. A Moonshee whom I sent toward Peshawur wrote me that he had met the army of Dost Muhammad Khan on his road.

Another report to the same effect made me suppose the arrival of the Ummir or of his army certain. Yesterday, however, I received intelligence, which throws doubt upon the Ummir's advance, stating that he is still at Peshawur; that he has promised to follow Chuttur Singh, who has arrived in Chuch, in eight days, and that his son actually accompanied the Sirdar part of his first march. My Moonshee must have been bribed by Chuttur Singh to spread this rumor. Chuttur Singh seems to have come post haste from Peshawur in two days. At Attock there was little firing yesterday. Report says the batteries are withdrawn, but this report has several times deceived me. Lieutenant Herbert on the 16th was well, but earnestly demanding succor. The enemy were two nights running foiled in their attempt to fire the West gate. It is built up with brick inside, so that even their success would not be decisive. It is supposed that they suffered some loss in the attempt. Lieutenant Herbert is *στραιτενεδ φορ φυνδσ μανι οφ θη γαρρισον αύε δεσερτεδ.* His fire has, I believe, destroyed another gun of the besiegers, striking it in the muzzle. All the arrangements of this young officer have displayed the most consummate prudence, firmness and judgment. His position has from the first been extremely critical, as there was not a man in the garrison upon whose good faith he could rely. But by turning out all objects of suspicion, even when otherwise recommended by their qualifications, he has contrived hitherto to stave off the meditated treachery, and to preserve the fortress, which is little injured by the enemy's shot. The walls are said to be 52 feet high, of large wrought stones cemented with lime. The shot of the field guns rebound quite harmless, and the 12-pounder battering guns have been sent on to Sher Singh, one of them being destroyed by Lieutenant Herbert's fire. Dost Muhammad Khan has given out that he will follow Chuttur Singh in a few days. But persons who are deemed good authority in Peshawur doubt this. He will probably wait to learn Sher Singh's success or defeat ere he mix himself up in his quarrel. I hope that Lieutenant Robinson, who left Moozuffurabad on the 7th ultimo and ought to have reached the camp of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, has arrived. He passed through the Jumboo territory. I am a little uneasy about him; any obstruction to his progress would have a most suspicious appearance just now. The Maharaja writes to say he has sent me 30,000 more Hurri Singea rupees or 15,000 Company's rupees. I will report when

it is received. I have no authentic news of the prisoners. Lieutenant Bowie is with the blockading force at Attock. The others are said to be either at Rohtass or at Sookoo in Potowar.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

By this morning's report the batteries are not withdrawn, but they have little ammunition and a march is expected.

No. 114.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 21st December 1848.

21st December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—Some of my people, sent out for information, returned yesterday saying they had met six sowars on their way to Cashmere *viâ* Meerpoor, who upon being questioned said they were the servants of Chuttur Singh, Ummir Dost Muhammad Khan and of Sooltan Muhammad Khan, respectively; that they were sent on an embassy to Maharaja Goolab Singh. Lieutenant ηρβερτ ωριτες θατ η άς νο ώπε οφ βεινγ αβλε το ωλδ ουτ μανι δαισ λονγερ υνλεσσ ουρ αρμι αδυανσε θη λοσσ οφ ατοκ ωουλδ σκαρσελι βη κομπενσατεδ βι θη καπτυρε οφ μυλταν. Dost Muhammad Khan has not yet arrived. He has promised to march on Friday, but if the movements of our army are prompt, will probably wait to see the result ere he plunge into such an enterprize. If our army delay, fear will be the motive attributed and θη ωλε πυνιαυβ ωουλδ βη ενδανιερεδ. Our army is so large that I see not what could be done with more τρωπσ-όω θει κουλδ βη συβσιστεδ ιν θισ δωαβ. The Sikh army at this moment is impressed with the belief that it will be annihilated. θισ ισ θη κριτικαλ μωμεντ. A blow now will do more than α τεμπεστ οφ βλωσ α μονθ ήνσε, prevent further coalition, secure to us and wring from the Sikhs the revenue of this Dooab, σαυε ατοκ πρευεντ φυρθερ ουτβρεακσ ιν ουρ ρεαρ ανδ οωεραωε αλλ δισποσιτιον το ρισε ίν ινδωσταν. As individuals the lives of Lieutenant Herbert and myself are not worthy to be balanced for one moment against any measure of general expediency. But the posts we hold are of essential consequence το θη σπηδι σεττλεμεντ οφ θισ καμπαγν ανδ θη λοσσ οφ θεμ βι υσ μαι εναβλε θη ἱνσυργεντs το προλονγθη ωαρ ανοθερ ιερ. Chuttur Singh has felled some

palm trees and is making up scaling ladders. He has also given 1,500 rupees to the Malhas to construct a bridge of boats across the Indus for the Ummir's army. There has been no firing at Attock for some days. The baggage of the blockading force is sent on toward Rawul Pindi. The terror inspired by our cannonade of the 3rd appears very great. If followed up promptly the whole Sikh army is predisposed to run. Numbers have deserted since the 3rd. It is the first severe taste they have had of British artillery, having hitherto been in trenches during our cannonades.

The passage of the Jelum alone would have an excellent effect. Chuttur Singh has given out that we have offered him all territory westward of that river and any *εσετατιον το αδυανσε ωιλλ γιυε στρενγθ το θη νοτιον ανδ καυσε θη πεοπλε το ρεγαρδ θη σικσ ορ δυρανισ ασ θειρ μαστερσ.*

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 115.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 26th December 1848.

26th December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—By a note of the 24th from Lieutenant Herbert it appears that the Ummir Dost Muhammad Khan has actually commenced hostilities with us, his people having fired upon the garrison of Attock from the fort of Khyrabad. Up to that time only a small detachment of his force had arrived. Chuttur Singh appears still to be lingering at Mansir in order that Dost Muhammad Khan may arrive in Chuch previous to his departure. Of the Ummir's movements my information is imperfect. The last account represented him as at Hushtnugr and about to proceed to Sohaut and had our army moved promptly forward, there is much doubt whether he had trusted himself across the Indus. The speedy passage of the Jelum has ever appeared to me a movement of the first importance. First, because it could have been past easily whilst the enemy were unrecovered from the panic of their repulse and had been allowed no time to strengthen themselves upon its margin, and whilst five corps and ten guns were absent at Attock and the absence of Chuttur Singh

discouraged the army; secondly, because the knowledge that no river intervened between them and succor would have strengthened the garrison of Attock in their allegiance; and, thirdly, because the presence of our army in this Dooab would have prevented coalition. Any further advance might have been deferred to a more convenient season. Dost Muhammad Khan has addrest, I believe, all the chiefs of Huzara claiming their allegiance. But only two of them have informed me of the circumstance. On the 24th, I forwarded letters written by the son and the servants of the Ummir to the garrison of Attock, ordering them to desert the service of infidels and range themselves under the banner of Islam.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 116.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 29th December 1848.

29th December 1848—Srikote, Huzara.—Chuttur Singh is still at Mansir waiting for the Ummir, of whose movements I have no very certain intelligence. He, the Ummir, has addressed the Chiefs of Huzara commanding their allegiance and aid to Chuttur Singh. His son at Khyrabad has commenced hostilities by firing upon the garrison of Attock. Chuttur Singh has with him still three, not four, regiments,—Richpal Singh's, Partaub Singh's, Baboo Pandah's and I believe Boodh Singh's. Such, at least, is my last account: but native testimony is never to be depended upon, and previously only three Sikh regiments were named. The Nujjeebs have been sent forward, one Corps, it is said, to Baug Bootur, the other to Hussun Ubdal. Chuttur Singh distrusts these men. Six or seven guns were fired last evening at Attock. It rained all yesterday. Report says that Dost Muhammad Khan has returned from his visit to Sohaut, but the result is unknown, and indeed so much false intelligence is sent me from all quarters that I can trust none. I have news from Lieutenant Herbert to the 25th. I have already more than once stated the nature of his position.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 117.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 30th December 1848.

30th December 1848—Srikote.—Yesterday arrived an answer from the Ummir Dost Muhammad Khan to a letter which I addrest to him about a month ago, when report said he had come with friendly intentions. It will be seen that he claims Peshawur, the Derajat, and Huzara, and intimates that he has sent an army to take possession, and that he will then be happy to reconcile differences between the British and Sikh Governments. He has accordingly addrest the Huzara chiefs claiming their allegiance and ordering them to seize my person. These purwanas, with one exception, have been shown me only by those whom I know to be intriguing with the Ummir. Had our army crossed the Jelum immediately after the affair of the 3rd, Dost Muhammad Khan had never thought of crossing the Indus and the enemy might have been destroyed in detail with little difficulty, only about half the Sikh force being assembled on the Jelum. The bearer of the Ummir's answer rates his force at 12,000, of which there are six drilled regiments amounting to 3,600. He states that the force is marching toward the Bazour Ferry. Chuttur Singh is still before Attock.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 118.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 31st December 1848.

31st December 1848 - Srikote.—Yesterday I forwarded a copy of the Ummir Dost Muhammad Khan's letter to my address, by a *cossid.* He claims Peshawur, Huzara, and the Derajat; says that he has sent an army to take possession and that he will afterwards be happy to reconcile differences between the British and the Sikhs. According to the best intelligence I can command, he is actually marching toward the Bazour Ferry of the Indus, if not arrived there. The bearer of the letter estimates his force at 12,000, of which there are six drilled regiments, three of 500 each and three of 700. I do not fear his force, but his intrigues will render my position very precarious. His son is at Khyrabad, but Herbert's fire seems to have silenced his guns. I earnestly

hope our army will pass the Jelum before the junction of the Dooranis and Chuttur Singh with Sher Singh. That obstacle overcome, the army might take its time to consider any further movement. There are at present absent from the Jelum five or six regiments, nearly half the effective force, and the rest are greatly dispirited. Mr. Inglis' letters of the 9th and 11th arrived together yesterday by the Cashmere dak. I have not heard since the 25th from Lieutenant Herbert. I offered to cash his bills, but he had procured money from shroffs.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

Diaries of CAPTAIN JAMES ABBOTT, *Assistant Resident, and later Deputy Commissioner of Huzara, 1849.*

[*Note.*—Captain Abbott was styled Assistant Resident, Huzara, until the end of April 1849, and Deputy Commissioner, Huzara, from the 1st of May 1849.]

No. 1.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 2nd January 1849.

2nd January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—A large portion of the Doorani force is encamped near the Bazour Ferry, where Chuttur Singh has built them a bridge of boats. The son of the Ummir is at Khyrabad, but his gun has been dismounted by Lieutenant Herbert's fire. I have vainly represented the importance of speedily crossing the Jelum. It would have saved Attock, prevented the coalition of the Ummir with Chuttur Singh, and have reduced the Sikh cause to the lowest ebb : moreover, it *was* ten times easier than now it is likely to prove. After the passage of the Jelum, delay would have little signified. *θη ποσιτιον οφ ηρβερτ ασ βεκομε μοστ περιλουσ ανδ ι αμ ιν ουρλι εκπεκτατιον οφ λεαρνινγ οφ θη φαλλ οφ ατοκ.* As the Ummir exprest a wish to receive an answer, I replied, yesterday, that I had no authority to answer his demands, an authority vested in my Government, nor could I say what answer Government might give, but that I could assure him he would incur the serious enmity of my Government, if he did not call away his son from the siege of Attock, or if he should cross the Indus; and I bade the messenger explain to him the absurdity of joining Chuttur Singh, who, if successful, would instantly exclude him from Peshawur, and, if beaten, could not for an hour save him from our vengeance. His army is rated at about 12,000, of which 3,600 are drilled troops. Lieutenant Bowie is still with the Sikh camp at Attock. Chuttur Singh is there, but the Nujjeebs have been sent on to Rawul Pindi. I heard from Lieutenant Herbert dated 30th.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 2.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 4th January 1849.

4th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—The fall of Attock is reported to me by authority, which I can scarcely venture to doubt. Lieutenant Herbert's letters must have prepared Government to expect it. The salute which I heard on the night of the 2nd assured me of the fact. The particulars have not yet reached me. But I believe that Lieutenant

Herbert, finding it the decided opinion of all his officers that the men would no longer stand by him, was attempting to escape upon a raft and was betrayed by those who were to have aided him. He is said to be a prisoner in the Sikh camp. Still his defence of that fortress may not have been in vain, *ιφ θη πασσαγε οφ θη ιηλυμ ισ εφεκτεδ βεφορε θη αρριυαλ οφ φιφτην ορ τωεντι θουσανδ αδδιτιοναλ οππωνεντσ.* So far as respects our reputation and interest in this Dooab, Peshawur and Cabul, *θη λοσσ οφ αττοκ ισ ονλι σεκονδ το θη λοσσ οφ λαωρε οω λονγ ι μαι βη αβλε το ωλδ μι οων ποστ ισ ωερι δουβτφυλ σομε οφ μι σταυνχεστ αδηρέντσ αλρεαδι ρεγαρδ ιτ ασ ωπλεσσ.* The Dooranis are detested more than the Sikhs. But there is an understanding amongst all Pathans in this country which very generally *πρεωεντσ βλωδσεδ βετωην θημ.* It is said that the Ummir Dost Muhammad Khan has applied to Maharaja Goolab Singh for money, and that upon his answer depends his further movements. I believe his finances are in a most deprest state and his army very ill paid. It is estimated at 12,000. The fall of Attock may encourage him to go further than at first he purposed; our long delay beyond the Jelum is ruining our cause in this Dooab. The whole Moosulman population was prepared to aid us. But our delay is attributed to the basest motives, and I hear that the Sikh partizans are plundering the villages and towns with impunity. Thus funds will be found for the Sikh army without which it must instantly have dissolved. Time too has been given for the counter-influence produced by the accession of a Muhammadan Prince and people to the Sikh cause: nor need it be repeated that Dost Muhammad Khan would never have joined the Sikhs had we followed up our advantage on the 3rd December. I feel it to be my duty to state and repeat these truths even at the risk of appearing presumptuous, for I alone am in a position to perceive the injury produced by this delay in its full extent. After crossing the Jelum, delay would have been comparatively unimportant.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 3.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 6th January 1849.

6th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—I have in my Journal of the 4th and Despatch of the 5th instant related the fall of Attock. The news

of to-day confirms my hope that Lieutenant Herbert at least (if not Sergeant Carthy) has escaped pursuit with six or seven followers. Dost Muhammad Khan by yesterday's report was still encamped at Bazour Ferry near the bridge of boats, and only a portion of his army had crost the river. I enclose the substance of his purwanas sent on the 4th to the chiefs of Huzara. There is no doubt, I believe, that Jellal Khan, Kakur, has been sent by him to Cashmere, to persuade the Maharaja to advance to Moozuffurabad or to advance funds for the war. It is remarkable that the Maharaja through his Vaqueel has consulted me upon the propriety of sending two more regiments to Moozuffurabad to relieve those cantoned there, upon plea of his diffidence of the fidelity of the latter. I have replied that I think they had better be relieved one at a time, the relieved corps marching away first, or the idea will get abroad that the Maharaja is joining the insurgents. I can scarcely believe that a Prince so sagacious would stake either his money or his safety upon such an absurd venture. At the same time, the season is one of prodigies, and an additional instance of insanity must not be wondered at. Reports are industriously spread throughout Huzara that Dost Muhammad Khan has with him 700 Moollas, who have shut the door of paradise against all Moosulmans falling in my cause or that of the British. I held a council of the Huzara chiefs yesterday, who unanimously decided to fight against the invader. At night, however, Khan-i-Zeman Khan, the Gundgurh Chief, and two or three others, were busily engaged in shaking the minds of the rest. Dost Muhammad Khan has turned the Sikhs out of Attock, according to the last report, and has placed there a garrison of 500 jezailchees. I have too often dwelt upon the injury our cause is sustaining by the hesitation of our army to cross the Jelum in front of an army inferior in numbers, discipline and courage. It is by the reputation of our valor that we have won and preserved our Eastern Empire. The maintenance of that reputation is worth a large risk. The difficulties of the passage are increasing hourly.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 4.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 11th January 1849.

11th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—Captain Nicholson's note of the 3rd instant came to hand yesterday. I sent my diary of yesterday to Lieutenant Robinson by his return messenger. I stated therein that Chuttur Singh, who had purposed remaining for the *Sunkrat* at Hussun Ubdal, receiving some apparently bad news from his son's camp, had suddenly started for the Jelum on the afternoon of the ——; that Akram Khan, son of the Ummir, with 3,000 foot and 1,000 horse and six guns, was said to be following Chuttur Singh; but that there were doubts of his proceeding far. Another force is said to be destined for Gundgurh. But if my followers continue true, I have little apprehension from the Dooranis. Their intrigues alone are dangerous. By the Cashmere dak I have no letter later than the 15th ultimo, none having arrived lately. A man from Cashmere confirms the report of Jellal Khan, Kakur, the Vuqueel of Dost Muhammad Khan, having arrived there, and states that he is treated with great attention. This man is one of many who believe the Maharaja to be secretly in league with the insurgents, that he sent money to Moolraj and Chuttur Singh, etc., etc. I know no facts that can justify the surmise and believe the Maharaja to be too cautious and too fond of his money to throw it away with so little hope of return. At the same time, should the Ummir really send on succor to the Sikhs, it will be a very suspicious circumstance, as he has no funds to feed an army, and I have reason to believe has positively refused this aid unless assisted by the Maharaja. The presence of Joalla Suhaie at Lahore is considered by many a guarantee of the sincerity of his master, as he is much attached to this servant, in whom he reposes the greatest confidence. I fear it is too certain that Lieutenant Herbert has been captured. Report says that Futteh Khan of Ghayb has joined the insurgents. I feared he would not remain staunch after the fall of Attock, which has shaken down our authority in this Dooab. I believe nearly all the Huzara chiefs have been secretly intriguing with the Dooranis.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 5.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 13th January 1849.

13th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—It is said that the camp of Dost Muhammad Khan has shifted about three *koss* from Bazour toward the Eusufzye country. I have the following intelligence from the camp of the Ummir, which I consider authentic. It is from an eye-witness, who can have no object in misrepresentation. Chuttur Singh has given 60,000 rupees to the Ummir, that is, 30,000 in cash, 15,000 in shawls etc., leaving a balance of 15,000 to be received at Rawul Pindi. For this sum the Ummir has lent him the services of nominally 1,000 horse, but really less than 800, who have marched with the Ummir's son, Akram Khân, for Rawul Pindi. The men are said to be greatly disheartened at the order to march, and to consider it as equivalent to a sentence of death. I think it probable they will find some excuse for proceeding no farther than Rawul Pindi. A Vuqueel of Maharaja Goolab Singh is actually in the Ummir's camp, and appears at his Durbar. His name is Boota Mull. He has been repeatedly seen in Durbar by witness, who does not, however, believe that any pecuniary aid has been rendered by his master to the Dooranis, and believes that the Vuqueel is there only to see how the game goes that his master may shape his course accordingly. The Ummir's army is very wretchedly paid. I have already reported the actual march of Akram Khan toward Rawul Pindi. About half the Ummir's army is in Chuch, destined it is said for Huzara. The rest is with him on the western bank of the Indus and in Attock; a small Sikh force is still encamped at Pahr, destined for Huzara. From Cashmere I learn that Dost Muhammad Khan's Vuqueel, Jellal Khan, has received three private audiences of the Maharaja, who has answered his master's letter; that he receives rupees five daily as maintenance; that———, a Colonel of the Maharaja's army, has been sent from Moozuffurabad to Jumboo with orders to raise 4,000 fresh levies, and that similar orders are issued to Hurri Chund. This intelligence, however, comes from an enemy. I think it quite certain that Jellal Khan has reached Cashmere. The Maharaja's Vuqueel here assures me that if this is the case he shall be seized and delivered up to our Government. It appears to me very possible that the Maharaja may be alarmed at indiscreet and often false accusations of his conduct, which appear in the newspapers, and I would beg respectfully to

suggest that no notice be taken of the reports I have just noticed unless further confirmation is afforded. It may serve Dost Muhammad Khan and Chuttur Singh's purpose to have a person at the Ummir's Durbar to personate the Jumboo Vuqueel. It appears to me at variance with the usual caution of the Maharaja to have an acknowledged Vuqueel at the Ummir's Court.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

It is, however, scarcely possible to believe that Dost Muhammad Khan would enter into hostilities with us, unless flattered with hopes from Jumboo.

No. 6.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 16th January 1849.

16th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—It is reported and appears probable that Dost Muhammad Khan has sent a messenger to recall his son Akram Khan and the 600 horse. He has probably learnt the fall of Mooltan, but report says also that he has heard of our army having crossed the Jelum, which I doubt. He himself is still on the Western bank of the Indus with half his force. The other half is at Shumsabad. My scouts report that he has broken up the bridge at Bazour Ferry, and has no idea of crossing to this side of the Indus ; that he had intended to attack me, but was dissuaded from it on learning the loss sustained by Chuttur Singh at Simulkund. He is aware that anything like retreat on his part may arouse all his enemies, who only wait their opportunity to set upon him. Indeed, I gather that his present policy is adopted with a view to bully us into the cession of Peshawur and the Derajat. I humbly opine that the reasons *αγαινστ θις σεσσιον αρε υναναερaβλε ιτ ωουλδ κυαδρυπλε θη στρενγθ ιν δουβλινγ θη ρευεννε οφ καβυλ* and bring us into immediate contact with that State for a space of 400 miles, instead of that contact being confined, as at present, to a single point and that one a battlefield, in which a disciplined army must always conquer. At the same time *ιτ μαι βη ασ ωελλ το δεφερ α δεσισινε ανσερ υντιλ ουρ αρμι αππροαχ θη ινδυσ.*

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 7.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 17th January 1849.

17th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—Dost Muhamad Khan is still on the western bank of the Indus with half his army. The other half is at Shumsabad. It is said that he has recalled his son Akram Khan and the 600 Doorani Horse from Rawul Pindi. Chuttur Singh is said to have marched without pause for the Jelum, after extorting rupees 60,000 from the shroffs of Rawul Pindi. A force of about 800 Sikh troops and two guns is at Pahr, destined for Huzara, but apparently they are afraid to venture hither I stated in yesterday's Diary my belief that Dost Muhamad Khan's coalition with Chuttur Singh was designed to bully us into the cession of Peshawur and the Derajat, and that I humbly opined there were υναυσεραβλε οβιεκτιονσ το θισ σεσσιον which would κυαδρυπλε ισ ποωερ ιν δουβλινγ ισ ρευενυε ανδ βρινγ ιμ ιντο κοντακτ ωιθ υσ for a space of 400 miles instead of that contact being limited as now to a single point, and that a battlefield, so favourable to us. At the same time, it appears to me desirable το αλλοω ιμ το ινδυλγε ανι ὥπε η μαι ανε φορμεδ οφ θη σεσσιον υντιλ ουρ αρμι αππροαχ θη ινδυσ. Some absurd story had been sent him of the death of Her Majesty without issue, and of England being in confusion in consequence; and from a letter to me from Colonel Richpal Singh, one of the ringleaders of this mutiny, I learn that stories are current in the Sikh camp of a general coalition in Hindustan against us, the Raja of Nipal having joined, in consequence of a box of detonating powder having been sent him by our Government with intent to blow him up. Such trash is greedily swallowed by the ignorant, amongst whom the Ummir must be rated. The Sikh army is much straitened for provisions. Were the Mooltan force to move smartly up this Dooab, the Sikhs would be compelled to fight upon ground of our choosing, as all their supplies would be cut off, and any risk to Huzara would be more than compensated by such an opportunity of crushing them.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 8.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 19th January 1849.

19th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—I have little to add to my Journal of yesterday. Dost Muhammad Khan is still on the western bank of the Indus; half his force is at Shumsabad. A man just arrived from Rawul Pindi states that Akram Khan and his horse had progressed as far as Hoormuk, a march beyond Rawul Pindi. His recall is uncertain. Chuttur Singh, I think, must have reached the Jelum, though some report that he is still in the neighbourhood of Rawul Pindi. The Sikh force at Pahr marched last evening to Hurripoor, and fired a salute of 30 or 40 guns, I know not what for. There is a report of Shere Singh's death by the hand of one of his own soldiers, but he has been killed so often that he must have nine lives to have fallen now. Chuttur Singh is said to have had great difficulty on leaving Rawul Pindi, owing to the troops insisting upon the fulfilment of his promise to pay them there. He extorted not 60,000 but 7,600 rupees from the shroffs and promised the troops at Bissoli, his jaghir. His means of doing so are very doubtful.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

Ruttun Singh, Maun, commanding the troops just arrived.

No. 9.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 29th January 1849.

29th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—The Ummir is still on the further side of the Indus, but the force at Shumsabad advanced yesterday to Huzroo with the intention, avowed by purwanas to the Mishwanis, to attack Srikote. I am quite ready to meet them. The Ummir, it is said, made a corresponding movement up the river to the Oond Ferry. The horse intended to support Akram Khan, estimated at from 600 to 1,000, have marched towards Rawul Pindi and a small body of horse have posted themselves at Hussun Ubdal, avowedly for Huzara. My messengers report that Akram Khan has not crossed the Jelum, and it is said he writes in the strongest terms to dissuade his father from crossing the Indus, until the affair of the Jelum is closed. I trust to be able to make good my post against the Ummir. An attack would be hailed by my people as an amusement, and I do not think the malcon-

tents have force enough to imperil my position. The Sikh force remains in Huzara. The people are not yet ready to aid me heartily for their destruction. I must wait until some fresh success of our arms inspirits them.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 10.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, for the 30th January 1849.

30th January 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—The camp of the Ummir is reported to be still on the western bank of the Indus, but it is said that on the invitation of one or two traitors at Srikote he has actually ordered an advance against Gundgurh and I believe there is no doubt of the fact. Nevertheless I hope to defeat his army if he really attacks me, and so long as the Mishwanis continue faithful have no apprehension for this post. If the people of the plain would unite heartily in their own defence I could easily drive out the Sikhs and Dooranis. But they appear to have lost all spirit. There are rumours of an action on the 21st, but this appears improbable as I have Major Mackeson's note of that date. Considering the extraordinary facility of the Sikhs in rallying after defeat, much blood will be saved by waiting to strike until the blow can be decisive. Our advance can no longer save Attock, nor destroy the enemy in detail, nor prevent the coalition of Sikh and Doorani, all of which it would probably have effected two months ago. The instant General Whish's force enters this Dooab the supplies of the Sikhs will begin to fail them and a defeat will then be utter perdition to them. I venture with the deepest submission to offer these remarks. A Vuqueel named Ram Dass, late in the service of Dewan Adjoodhia Pershaud and living in the Vuqueels' Havelee, sends Sher Singh timely notice of all our intentions.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Assistant Resident.

No. 11.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, from the 1st to the 6th April 1849.

1st April 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—The battlements of Srikote are fast rising. I have formerly mentioned the necessity of re-establishing

this castle. Nearly all the Jaghirdars of this mountain (Gundgurh) went over to the Dooranis. Many of them are consequently in exile, separated from their old haunts only by the stream of the Indus. Many of the people of the mountain who were disposed to be loyal were deluded by the belief that the British star had set, and were led to appropriate or to conceal for the traitors, or to purchase of them, Government or my private property. All these persons are naturally alarmed at the re-establishment of British authority, and must long remain more or less disposable in the hands of the more flagrant offenders. The charge of Gundgurh therefore becomes weighty, because the population of this mountain are the bravest in Huzara : the name is connected with signal defeats of former Governments, and it is now for the first time during many years unchecked by the proximity of troops in Qatur, the nearest cantonment being Rawul Pindi, distant 45 miles. I thought the re-establishment of Srikote under these circumstances indispensable to the tranquillity of the district, and I am glad to find that Captain Nicholson concurs in this opinion. My experiment last year of doing without this fort was successful, but under very different circumstances. A large field force was at Husun Ubdal, another at Huzara. The Turkhailees had had their old jaghirs restored ; the land tax had been lightened ; all were anxious for the continuance of the existing rule which protected them from Native tyranny. Such is even now the popular feeling, but there are many exceptions from it. Even these will, I hope, soon cease to exist. But the process must be gradual. Meanwhile the means of compelling obedience are absolutely necessary to tranquillity. My great difficulty consists in procuring drafts for the garrisons from our provinces. I have none at present, and I think that the greater part should be of this character. Lieutenant Robinson of Engineers arrived this evening from Peshawur to complete the boundary survey interrupted by the late insurrection.

2nd April 1849—Srikote.—The works of the fort are going on rapidly. The day has been spent as usual in answering urzees and in kucherry duties.

3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th April—Srikote.—Occupied as on the preceding day. I learn from Attock of the arrival there of Major Mackeson, Agent to the Governor-General, on his return *viâ* Cashmere to the Provinces. Also that individuals of the Peshawur troops cannot leave their lines at

night without danger of being murdered. It is difficult to account for this in a district in which the British have hitherto been popular.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 12.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, from the 14th to the 24th April 1849.

14th April 1849—Srikote, Huzara.—Captain Holmes of the Irregular Cavalry stationed at Rawulpindi passed through Srikote yesterday toward the central parts of the district to seek for a site for a bungalow and a fitting situation for a sanitarium. The subject occasions me some uneasiness. Huzara is at present ruled without force, by the reverence of the people for the British Government. But the whole population is armed, and the array is estimated at 30,000. Some of the mountains, as those of Gundgurh, the Kurrall and Dhoond country, are very strong and have cost the Sikhs much blood and treasure to bring into subjection, and under the Sikhs, in spite of a system of pillage the most shameful, this district was always a heavy burthen to the State. A hope of effecting a change has now dawned. The rents are lightened, the extortion has ceased, the country is flourishing and the people are contented and happy. In a few years they may forget entirely the old system of an appeal to arms, and every year the expense of Government will grow lighter. But the people are exclusively Muhammadans, not bigoted, but sincerely pious. As such they are sensitive of any intrusion upon their privacy, or of any open violations of the law of their Prophet. There are amongst them lawless and faithless men; but a blackguard is a phenomenon quite unknown. Their hatred to the Sikhs was based upon religious enthusiasm, their horror of idol worship, of eaters of the unclean beast and drinkers of forbidden wine. But the Sikhs in their indulgence seldom exhibit those spectacles which are to be seen in the neighbourhood of a British barrack. They were gentlemen in their cups, merry, talkative and boastful; but not absolute swine.

If, before obedience and order have grown into a habit in Huzara, the people are brought into close contact with our camps and barracks—to see there outdone every abomination which they had abhorred in their Sikh masters—it is scarcely possible that their respect for us should

remain unshaken and thus an effective and economic engine of Government were lost.

Moreover it is unfortunately too certain that a system does more or less obtain amongst even British officers of making up deficiencies in the vernacular by physical eloquence. The same persons cannot be taught to exercise ordinary precaution, and will wander over the wildest mountains and amongst an armed population, who have had little acquaintance with law, unarmed and unattended. If it be remembered that the apprehension of a murderer in those mountains is quite impossible; that the people cannot understand the importance of any person who travels lightly attended; that they have, time out of mind, been their own avengers; that they are excessively jealous of their women, so that they will take arms to prevent the occupation of ground overlooking their habitations—I think it will be allowed that the sudden occupation of the Huzara and Dhoond mountains by British officers were an experiment attended with much risk.

The sacredness attaching generally throughout our own provinces to the life of British officers is one of the secrets by which our empire is maintained and should be upheld by every means in the power of the Government. But if unlimited opportunity is afforded an armed population to retaliate by bloodshed affronts offered to their persons or their prejudices, and if we be found powerless to avenge such murders, it is quite impossible that this sacredness should be maintained.

Notwithstanding the present submission of the tribes of this district to British authority, the whole have recently been in arms and fighting successfully against the garrisons, which had controlled the country. For although those garrisons were inducted by me when first I brought the mountain districts into subjection, yet so implicit was my confidence in Chuttur Singh as Nazim of Heraut (*sic*) until I got an insight into his secret proceedings, that I had left the whole patronage of the district in his hands, and thus every fort was governed by his creatures and one and all declared for him when he threw off the mask, and as the war might have become formidable could the Sikhs have retired upon Huzara as upon a country of which they hold the reins, the mountaineers were ordered by me to blockade the forts, and the garrisons, hopeless of of succor, evacuated them.

An attempt was made under the Sikh Government to disarm the people. But the task was not easy of accomplishment. The defenceless plains and valleys were deprived of their arms, and thus placed at the mercy of the mountaineers; but the latter retained a sufficient number to render them still very formidable to a weak Government, and their stock is now being replenished by the attempt made in the Rawul Pindi district to seize the arms of the inhabitants, causing the latter to send their arms by thousands to the mountains for sale there at a fourth of their value.

It may nevertheless, I think, be possible gradually to disarm the mountaineers, when they have full assurance that arms are no longer necessary for the protection of their rights, but this supposes an attention to that law of gradual progression by which order and peace are produced in the natural as in the moral world; and the avoidance of those sudden changes which invariably produce confusion and mischief in either.

If these arguments be deemed of weight, I would suggest attention to the table mountain of Nurr, overhanging the Jelum at the south of the mountain formation. It must be, I think, 6,000 feet higher than the sea's level,, has abundance of water, of space, and of fir timber, and is, so far as I can learn, free from the fevers which hang about almost all the mountain summits of Huzara. It is about 40 miles east by north of Rawul Pindi, is crested with snow in winter and attained by a single gradual ascent from the plains.

The Kurrore mountain is of far less altitude, and I should doubt its being free from fever during the monsoon. It were, however, at other seasons an excellent sanitarium for those who could not reach Nurr, its distance from Rawul Pindi not exceeding 20 miles. I think, however, that both Europeans and Natives will be more healthy cantoned in the plains than in the mountains, resorting to the sanitaria only for occasional change of air.

Nurr and Kurrore being on the skirts of the mountain districts are less objectionable as regards the people of Huzara than other sites. They bring the army in contact only with a single and distant tribe, the Suttees, who have no sympathy with their neighbours.

If my arguments are deemed insufficient, there can be no doubt that the sites to be preferred are the spurs from the enormous mountains of Meean Jani ke Choki and Moochpoora, summits which must, I think, be nearly 10,000 feet in altitude. They are in the very midst of the wild country of the Dhoonds, an uncertain and warlike people, and cut off from the plains and from the valley by vast tracts of the most rugged mountains.

The mountains of the Khaunpoor district adjacent to Rawul Pindi are all more or less infected with fever, during and after the monsoon.

Whatever may be the decision of Government, my best efforts will be made to give it effect, but I have deemed it my duty to record what appear to me objections and difficulties, adding that, whatever two or three years hence may be the nature of our position in the Punjaub, any disaffection of the people of Huzara in the interim seems to me a contingency which it were worth some sacrifice to avoid, and my belief that, if the people can for that term be rendered as happy as at present they are, a confidence in our Government will be begotten, which will resist even the spectacle of reeling drunkards and our addiction to the flesh of the unclean beast.

I went to-day on foot in pursuit of a tiger which has been doing damage in a neighbouring village, but after a hard day's toil returned unsuccessful.

15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th April 1849—Srikote.—The fort of Srikote is not yet quite finished; my days are occupied as usual. My correspondence is finished by daybreak. After breakfast I hear and answer urzees until noon, when kucherry is opened and lasts until sunset.

20th April—Srikote.—Went after another tiger which had taken refuge in a cave, from which I found it impossible to dislodge him, having no fireworks at hand. The dogs went in but could not attract his attention. I fired in and hit him, but as he could not be seen by looking into the cave I was obliged at last very reluctantly to light a fire in the mouth. This as I feared did not bring him out. He was stifled by the smoke.

21st, 22nd, and 23rd April—Srikote.—Employed as on other days—in the morning in hearing and answering urzees and writing orders to the Kardars, and from noon to sunset in kucherry duties. A wild

report has reached Huzara and caused some stir amongst the disaffected. It was sent me from Moozuffurabad, and states that His Highness of Cashmere has taken alarm at our supposed designs and is secretly collecting an army for hostile purposes and sounding the neighbouring chiefs as to their disposition to side with him. I enquired of the Jumboo Vuqueel in my camp whether there be any stir in Cashmere. He replied that a neighbouring Prince, whose territories adjoin Gilgit, had shown hostile dispositions and that the Maharaja has assembled a force to overawe him. I do not wholly shut my ears to such reports, because it is just possible that the investigations of the Mooltan affair may have elicited evidence alarming to His Highness of Jumboo. I can imagine no other circumstance capable of shaking his friendly disposition at this season, and I conceive him far too wary to have committed himself by any tangible demonstration.

24th April 1849—Srikote.—Engaged from morning until sunset in overhauling the accounts of the last eight months, which the flight of the accountant some months ago had thrown back. My dak is entirely cut off and I have no letter for about ten days.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

The want of paper has caused me to write as little as possible from some time past. I have now received a supply.

No. 13.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Assistant Resident, Huzara, from the 25th to the 30th April 1849.

25th April 1849—Srikote.—Finding that much excitement was occasioned by the presence of Goolam Khan, Chief of Huzara proper, at Hurkishengurh, where the want of drilled troops is ill-supplied by armed peasants who sympathize with prisoners of their own family and religion, I took opportunity of the acquiescence of the Officer Commanding in Attock to anticipate the permission of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir H. M. Lawrence and of the Officer Commanding at Rawal Pindi to lodge that Chief in the fortress of Attock, begging that he might be subjected to no hardship save such as safe custody renders inevitable In fact the Vuqueel of Jehandad Khan was speaking openly of

persuading his master to make an effort to release Goolam Khan, his friend, by force, and by a singular coincidence, which may have been more than accidental, Jehandad Khan entered Huzara with a considerable body of horse and foot the very day of Goolam Khan's removal, his plea being attendance at a marriage of one of his followers. I have rebuked him for taking such a liberty without first asking permission. I was kept a whole day in suspense as to his designs, but my party reached Attock with their prisoner unmolested. Engaged from morning to night with the public accounts of the last eight months.

26th April 1849—Srikote.—Engaged until noon with the accounts, after which kucherry until sunset.

27th April—Ghazi, Kurri.—Marched to Ghazi in progress to Darchitli, where I am building a castle upon the estate of Goolam Mohyooddeen, Tarkhailee, one of the self-exiled conspirators. My purpose is to ascertain where *chokies* will be necessary to keep in order the mountain of Gundgurh and also to acquire a thorough acquaintance with those localities which I have not heretofore visited, in order to act without embarrassment in case a hostile visit be necessary. I have deferred this hitherto in order to carry on the all-important repairs of the fort of Srikote. After noon held kucherry.

28th April—Kurri, Darchitli.—Marched to Darchitli by the Bhong Durrah, ascending by one of the most formidable approaches in the world, where one hundred good matchlocks might destroy the largest army of invaders. There is nothing so strong as this ascent on the Srikote side. Nara is nothing in comparison. Found the works of the castle pretty well advanced in spite of the distance of the water and of the stones used in construction. It is a most essential post commanding most of the strongholds of the Tarkhailee clan. At noon ascended Peer Than, the principal summit of Gundgurh, distant about seven miles, and returned by sunset. This summit is of blue mountain limestone rising out of a ridge of argillaceous schist permeated with veins of quartz, lime and mica. It possesses no water. The plunge on either side is extraordinary. A rifle ball might hit its mark in the plain below. My thermometer is not very trustworthy, but I believe 3,600 feet is nearly the true altitude above the sea-level. Peer Than is the key to all the southern half of Gundgurh, the villages being sited upon its spurs. My

visit was necessarily brief, but sufficient I trust to put me in possession of the features for military purposes.

29th April 1849—Ghazi.—Marched back to Ghazi: held kucherry after noon.

30th April— Torbaila, Huzara.—Marched to Torbaila, where I am rebuilding the castle upon a small scale. I was obliged to destroy it when the Sikhs were in rebellion lest it should fall into their hands. Right opposite, the self-exiled traitors of Huzara have taken up their abode, and a castle is the cheapest means of checking their incursions. Indeed Torbaila can never be left safely without garrison as all the armed population beyond the river are lawless. The benefit of a fort over a cantonment is that the former costs yearly about the fifth part of the latter; in some cases not more than a tenth. Khan-i-Zeman Khan is at Khubul, and I see him through my telescope returning toward his retreat of Sitana. He visited Khubul to bribe the people there to aid him in burning the crops in Huzara and Chuch by sending incendiaries across the Indus nightly upon inflated skins. I shall urge Major Lawrence to re-occupy the fort of Pihoor, which commands the supplies of all the villages on the western bank of the river.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Assistant Resident.

No. 14.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, Huzara, from the 1st to the 9th May 1849.

1st, 2nd and 3rd May 1849—Torbaila, Huzara.—Heavy rain these three days, which have rendered marching impossible. During the rain I have been occupied with the accounts of the last eight months, some of which are still delayed owing to the confusion occasioned by the flight of the accountant. When the rain ceases kucherry is opened to all who have complaints to prefer. The fort of this place I was obliged to destroy after its surrender to prevent Chuttur Singh occupying it with a garrison as it could not have stood a regular siege. I am now rebuilding it upon a much smaller scale, a mere castle in fact capable of holding the police *chokie* necessary at a point where the district comes in contact with the lawless tribes of the Mahabunn. There was formerly a garrison of 100 matchlocks here. But I believe 25 will

now suffice and they may be reduced hereafter. The outlaws from Huzara have been parading on the further bank of the Indus, striving to persuade the wild tribes to join them. But I have threatened these tribes with the establishment of such restrictions as will render life a burthen to them if they aid the rebels.

4th May 1849—Sohaubi.—I marched this morning about five miles up the Indus to see whether the old *chokie* at the Towie ferry would need re-establishment. I then struck off to the eastward by south and camped at Sohaubi, an undulating tract at the foot of the Sarde Mountain. Held kucherry as usual.

5th May—Hurripoor.—Returned to-day to Hurripoor after an absence of 11 months, some of the most anxious of my life. The country is in great beauty, the crops, half ripe, waving richly over plain and valley and contrasting strongly with the sterile mountains which shoot up as mere rocks all around. Yet those fertile tracts have been an eyesore to me for many months and the ruggedness of those mountains has been beauty in my eyes. I passed the fort of Barookote, which like that of Torbaila I was obliged on its surrender to destroy, for the same reason. I had formerly here a garrison of 60. Fifteen will now be sufficient and the fort need not be rebuilt. The heavy rain, although unseasonable, has done little injury; the season is one of the most abundant that has been known, and even the ravages of the Dooranis have in many places been partly recovered by a second crop from the old roots. At Hurripoor the Sikhs destroyed all the barracks I had built, unroofed the jail and two of the towers of the town. But most of the Khuttrees' shops remain. The fort has not been injured. It is a stout little place. With my property and that of Lieutenant Robinson at Hurripoor were some Government instruments which were taken (when the Sikhs plundered my bungalow) by Bukshie Ruttun Singh, Chuttur Singh's Vuqueel. I presume he might be made to surrender them. Held kucherry as usual.

6th, 7th, 8th and 9th May—Hurripoor.—I rise daily before day-break, close my dak packet by sunrise, ride out, breakfast, hear and answer urzees until noon and then hold kucherry until sunset. The examination and amalgamation of the accounts alone break in upon the

regularity of this routine. The daks continue to be very irregular, letters in some cases from Lahore being 14 days on the road.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Deputy Commissioner.

No. 15.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, Huzara, from the 11th to the 26th May 1849.

11th to 18th May 1849—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Nothing unusual has occurred in this period. My daily occupations are little varied. Much time is absorbed in the correction of the accounts, which from three different quarters I have found full of errors, not indeed of serious moment, but which if not corrected might render the accounts hereafter unintelligible. It will not appear astonishing that there should be such errors, but rather that any accounts whatever could be kept under the difficulties encountered. There being three different rupees in circulation, the chances of error are three-fold. From 11 A.M. until sunset daily I hold kucherry. During the late uproar several instances of assassination occurred amongst the mountains, the investigation of which is attended with difficulty.

19th to 26th May.—I have no particular events to record. Lieutenant Robinson came in for two days to correct his portion of the accounts and again left Hurripoor to resume his survey operations in the mountains. I am detained here although anxious to visit the Kurral Mountains, because there is no other officer at hand to keep a check upon the movements of the outlaws beyond the Indus. So soon as Captain Nicholson returns to this neighbourhood, I purpose making a tour of the district to settle cases not easily decided at a distance. It would be my wish to be thus constantly in motion, because the summoning of evidence from a distance during sowing time and harvest, which occur twice every year, causes much distress to the people, and many cases are tediously deferred from the obvious injustice of making many suffer for the benefit of one. During the past week, I have held kucherry daily. I am still in ignorance as to the exact arrangements purposed by the Board for the Military Police of Huzara.

P.S.—I have to apologise for the length of period since my last Journal.

No. 16.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, Huzara, from the 9th to the 15th June 1849.

9th June 1849—Hurripoor, Huzara.—Whilst waiting for instructions regarding the formation of the Huzara Corps, I have determined to make a short tour of the district as the near approach of the rains will soon render this very inconvenient. I shall therefore start tomorrow morning. Held kucherry from 11 until sunset, the early morning being devoted to the accounts which I have just received back from Lieutenant Robinson, and to hearing and answering urzees.

10th June—Rujjooia.—Marched this morning to Rujjooia, 19 miles. Held Kucherry in the afternoon until sunset.

11th June—Rujjooia.—Halted to hear cases; employed before noon in making up the accounts, in hearing and answering urzees, and from noon until sunset in hearing and deciding cases.

12th June—Nara Nullaie.—Marched up the mountain to Nara Nullaie, not the Nara of Gundgurh. This is my first visit to Nara, which is a table mountain of clay slate and limestone, one of the remote spurs of Meean Jani ke Choki. It is by my measurement about 5,000 feet higher than the sea, but my thermometer is rather incorrectly graduated. The climate is healthful and agreeable, but the scenery is bare and wretched as is the case with most of the Huzara mountains, Shirwaun, Dunna, Srikote, Sri Bungh, Mari, Junnoo Muh. Held kucherry from noon until sunset.

13th June—Myra Numli.—Marched to Myra Numli, a most fatiguing march over rugged and lofty mountains, distance about 20 miles. The scenery greatly improves half way when the rugged precipices of naked limestone are exchanged for gentler acclivities wooded with firs, oak, yew, a tree called *munnoo* resembling the elm, walnut, cedar, holly, sycamore and other trees and shrubs which delight an eye worn out with the aspect of the arid rocks that sentinel Huzara. Myra Numli are villages at the foot of mount Meean Jani ke Choki, the loftiest mountain in the district, which I have never before found leisure or opportunity to visit, but which I consider it my duty to ascend ere I send in the sketch map called for. The arrival of the drafts for the new regiment prevented me from starting earlier. Myra Numli has a small fort with a few police to man it. Although the elevation must be

nearly 7,000 feet, the temperature is scarcely pleasant, the valley being shut in by the ridge connecting the mountains Meean Jani ke Choki and Moochpoora. Held kucherry on the arrival after noon of my Moonshees.

14th June 1849—Mount Meean Jani ke Choki.—Climbed to the summit of Meean Jani ke Choki, about 3,000 feet. The summit is of compact dark grey sandstone stratified. The spurs are of limestone and clay slate. This aspect of the mountain is rather bare, but the northern side has a thick forest of cedar, fir, oak, sycamore, the latter of great size and beauty, horse chestnut, *rousse*, here called *loonie*, and other trees. The altitude by my thermometer is 10,000 feet, which is exactly what I guessed it to be, viewing it two years ago from a distance. It overlooks the whole of Huzara. The view is very fine. But these mountains want the peculiar charm of those about Simla, *viz.*, an ever-blooming flora, an abundance of sparkling streams and interminable dells, which the eye is never weary of pursuing. I find the map constructed upon bearings and conjecture, without a visit to the main feature, essentially defective, and am glad I did not send it in previous to this visit. The air upon such a mountain cannot fail to be pure. The moon, which is diminished to a third of her full disc, appeared as distinct in the heavens at midday as at night. The water upon this mountain is not very abundant. I and my party drank the snow which was found in ravines on the northern side. The temperature disappointed me, being upwards of 80° in the shade. The air was pleasant and the sun, excepting for its glare, not offensive. I consider this mountain inferior to the Dhoond mountains as a locality for a sanitarium, being less accessible, more scantily furnished with water near the summit and affording fewer easy acclivities. I have elsewhere recorded what appear to me objections to the establishment of sanitaria within the mountains of this district for at least two years to come. Should these be overruled, I think the most suitable site will be found near the summit of a ridge which, commencing with Mount Murri, extends to Gurrial Gulli above Fort Charian. The northern aspect will, I think, be preferred. This ridge is crested with a species of cedar called *paloodur*, bearing the foliage of the yew and affording timber equal, if not superior, to that of the larch. At about 500 feet from the summit the ground slopes easily so as to be often susceptible of culture

without terracing. The sides have a forest more or less thick of fir, pear trees, oak, etc. Water is generally abundant immediately beneath the steeper acclivity of the summit. The ridge belongs to the Dhoond country, and is approachable from Rawul Pindi, either *viâ* Phoolgraon and Dunna or by Charian. By Dunna, the first march from Phoolgraon carries the traveller to Dunna, elevated about 5,000 feet; the second short march to Mount Murri. The ridge must be from 7 to 3,000 feet high. Snow lies very heavily for about four months. It fell when I was camped there with a Sikh force for four consecutive days, without intermission, commencing 25th November.

It has been the custom of the Dhoonds, Kurralls and Suttees to rise upon the garrisons of their country at every moment of visible weakness of the Government. On the last occasion they merely obeyed my order in rising. But the people are treacherous amongst themselves and the most dastardly assassinations are common. I cannot therefore think that, whilst the Punjab is liable to commotions, it were prudent to entangle our sick amongst these mountains or to encourage officers to build there. Mount Nurr is contiguous to the plains. The Suttees, its inhabitants, have no sympathy with their neighbours, and a small detachment would always suffice to make the place secure during the absence of our troops from the neighbourhood. But amongst the Dhoond mountains the population is more numerous, the retreat more difficult, the isolation from succor or supplies easily effected by the people, by seizure of the passes outward. Retreat at the commencement would betray distrust and weakness, and certainly cause a rising, and unless the force there were considerable its danger might be great. The great tragedy at Cabul commenced with the murder of individuals, who with the fearlessness of Britons would wander unguarded amongst an armed population. The perfect impunity attending these acts in most instances led the people to regard a general massacre as a thing quite feasible. The sacredness attaching to British life in India was never established in Afghanistan for want of the commonest prudence. Yet we had not been many days in that country without discovering that the people thirsted for our blood. I would not dishonor the Dhoonds by comparing them with Afghauns, who are the lowest of mankind upon the moral scale. On the contrary, their feelings toward us at present are most friendly. That they may

never be otherwise, I would avoid tempting men so lawless beyond due bounds. On descending from the mountain the day was too far advanced to hold kucherry.

Marched down the Dohr rivulet to Dumtour, and from thence to Nowa Shihr which, though of considerable elevation, has a hot wind. A Persian note, purporting to be from Ahmed Khan Sahib, having a few words of English scrawled upon it, amongst which was the name of Lieutenant Hamilton, begged me to report the arrival of that officer in Huzara for the information of His Highness the Maharaja of Cashmere.

J. ABBOTT, CAPTAIN,
Deputy Commissioner.

No. 17.—Diary of Captain James Abbott, Deputy Commissioner, Huzara, from the 16th to the 26th June 1849.

16th June 1849—Nowa Shihr, Huzara.—Halted to hear causes; held kucherry from 11 A.M. until sunset; engaged previously in hearing and answering urzees. A Persian letter was brought me to-day purporting to be from Ahmed Khan Sahib (quasi Hamilton), stating that he had arrived from Cashmere with a guard which he was about to leave at Mahugul that he might proceed straight onward to Peshawur through Tunnole. A letter from His Highness the Maharaja of Cashmere accompanied addrest to his Vuqueel and saying that the Sahib Bahadoor had been some time in Cashmere and was anxious to visit Abbott Sahib. Upon the borders of the first letter were scrawled "Lieutenant Hamilton proceeding to join his regiment at Peshawur; sorry I can't see you on the road. You must tell Molraj that I have arrived safely." The words were ill-spelt and the whole letter appeared to be anything rather than the production of a gentleman. However I thought it might possibly be some heedless, half-educated young fellow who might get into trouble from ignorance of habits of the people, so I sent him a purwana for a guard to accompany him to Attock and addrest a note to Lieutenant Hamilton hoping for the pleasure of his company should he pass my tent. At night I heard that he had proceeded on his way through Tunnole, but could learn no particulars of his conduct.

17th June—Mahugul.—Last night I was wakened by my servant, who informed me that a Sahib was standing without. I dressed and went

forth and invited him into my sleeping tent whilst another was being pitched for his reception. He was a vulgar looking young man of two or three and twenty, with light down upon his chin, a dirty towel wound around his head for turban and a suit of clothes of the black puttoo of Cashmere. He wore no shirt. His manners were of the lowest order of the barrack room, but he steadily affirmed that he was Lieutenant Hamilton of the 24th Native Infantry proceeding to join his regiment at Peshawur. I was perplext how to act. Having invited him to be my guest, I could not refuse him ordinary civility, yet it was impossible to avoid the suspicion that a deserter from one of our regiments or a travelling apothecary sat before me. This morning I remained on the ground to offer him breakfast and put him through a cross-examination so far as I politely could. He took a long time to consider ere he answered the most ordinary question; said that he had been ordered to join General Gilbert's force at Peshawur; had been up with two companies to Kangra and from thence had made his way through Cashmere; had met Major Mackeson at Cashmere; was sure his Corps, the 24th, was at Peshawur; that the Colonel's name was Robertson. Unfortunately I had no Army List to refer to. His manner at breakfast was in keeping with his conversation. He handled his knife like a bayonet, preferred a fork of steel for eating sardines and rice, and drank his tea from the saucer. But suspicious as were all these circumstances I did not think myself justified in arresting or treating him discourteously without absolute proofs of ungentlemanly conduct. Finding that he purposed to cross the burning plains of Qatur and Chuch afoot, I sent him a pony, but had scarcely done so ere it occurred to me that if a deserter this might facilitate his escape. On arriving here, where he spent a day, I find that his conduct at Cashmere was anything but decorous; that he avoided Major Mackeson and lived upon His Highness the Maharaja, whom he calls familiarly Molraj; that his dress and cooking pots are the gifts of His Highness, who was at last obliged to beg him to be gone. I have therefore written to Peshawur and to Captain Nicholson to ascertain if there be such a Lieutenant Hamilton in 24th N. I. and if not to take precautions for his apprehension. I held kucherry to-day as usual on the arrival of my establishments. Mahugul, although lower than Nowa Shihr, is cooler, owing to the hot wind from Huzara (which rolls up the valley of the Dohr to the latter) being here shut out by the huge table mountain of Tunnole.

18th June 1849—Mansera.—Marched to Mansera, where there is a rather large fort Here the Sikhs under Colonel Bhoop Singh, one of the best and most worthy of the Sikh officers, yet deeply implicated in the late conspiracy, long held their camp, not having courage to attempt to force the pass outward where Lieutenant Robinson was posted with some thousands of matchlockmen. The pass is a footpath winding for miles over the tails of spurs from the huge mountains of Beerungulli and occasionally plunging into and emerging from deep ravines. Such a pass may be forced by an intrepid and cool body of Regular troops, and our matchlockmen gave little promise of offering a very resolute resistance. But it is ground peculiarly adapted to armed peasantry who have a thousand means of retreat if repulsed, and who under other circumstances can never be persuaded to stand; and as such I had at once selected it in preference to the Dumtour and Sulhud passes which the people of the country deem stronger and which have a more formidable look. The flank of a column threading this pass is exposed throughout its extent to the fire of an active enemy, and every spur must first be carried and occupied ere the column can pass in safety. The Sikhs held their camp at Mansera with little molestation excepting that their supplies were straitened. Lieutenant Robinson could not persuade his matchlockmen to venture within musket range. Had not Jhundur Singh, however, been sent to Huzara, the force would have laid down its arms and the rebellion would have been quashed. This we learnt from the intercepted letters of their officers. I held kucherry to-day as usual.

19th June—Shinkiari.—Marched to Shinkiari at the head of the Pukli valley. Owing in the first place to my absence from Huzara whilst settling the boundary and afterwards to the rebellion it is long since I had visited Pukli. The whole surface of the country has been altered by culture and not a square yard of fallow or culturable soil remains unoccupied. Such is the effect of security. Thousands of emigrants have returned and there is a continual strife for land which has lain neglected for years. Held kucherry as usual.

20th June—Shinkiari.—Halted to try causes and settle disputes. Much oppression takes place in the Bogurmungh valley, where I have no fort. The people who suffer dare not for their lives complain. I hope

to amend this by coming to live in this neighbourhood for several months in the year and by making constant visits to the valley. Employed during the forenoon with the accounts and from 11 A.M. until sunset in holding kucherry. The first storm of the monsoon occurred last night.

21st June 1849—Mansera.—Another and heavier storm this evening. These storms give promise of a regular fall of rain, which the country has not enjoyed at the right season for several years. I marched back to-day to Mansera. I have been endeavouring for some months to supply timber to Peshawur. But although there is abundance in Pukli, the river Sirun will not admit of their passage downward for a space of about 15 miles, and the portage is so narrow, difficult and dangerous that only the smallest timbers can be conveyed thereby. I have ordered a better road to be opened, as I doubt not the supply from this district of timber to Peshawur will be deemed a matter of considerable moment by the Government. It is at present matter of the utmost difficulty to procure a timber in Huzara, *i.e.*, at Hurripoor. The Dohr rivulet will waft them down but a short distance, both the Dohr and the Hurroh being exhausted by the canals of irrigation. I held kucherry as usual.

22nd June—Mansera.—Halted here to hear causes. Last night my tents were blown away in the third storm. Occupied in the forenoon with the accounts and from noon until sunset in kucherry.

23rd June—Mahugul.—Marched back to Mahugul, where a letter from the Kardar of Khaunpoor met me announcing that Raja Hydur Buksh Khan, Gukka, was in open rebellion in the Khaunpoor mountains. I hope that it is a mere dispute between the Raja and the Kardar, nevertheless very small openings of mischief are not to be neglected in Huzara, which resembles nothing so much as a powder magazine. I therefore after a short kucherry marched on to Nowa Shihr and settled some disputes there.

24th June—Chumba.—Marched to Chumba; engaged during the forenoon in hearing and answering urzees and afterwards until sunset in kucherry. A storm in the evening.

25th June—Goolterie.—Marched to Goolterie, the seat of Goolam Khan, Tereen, who is a prisoner in Attock. He is a clever fellow, for he has persuaded the women of his village to believe that he sacrificed himself for their safety, whereas it is notorious that Dooranis entered

Huzara wholly on his invitation. I had no idea that his place was so strong. No Doorani army if opposed by a hundred matchlocks would venture to attack it, and he had 150 paid by me with unlimited promises of aid in case of attack. The old women of the place came in deputation to solicit his release.

At Mahugul a note from the Kardar of Huzara complained of the conduct of Lieutenant Hamilton Sahib, Bahadoor, who had been indulging in a daily ration of two bottles of country *arrack*, for which he would not pay, and had beaten several people without offence. I had previously warned the Kardar to inform Captain Nicholson should this person commit any irregularities, and Captain Nicholson on the Kardar's complaint has sent a party to arrest him, having discovered that there is no Lieutenant Hamilton in the 24th N. I. Here Raja Hydur Buksh, whom I had summoned, met me. I shall, however, go on to Khaunpoor as there must be something essentially amiss either in the Raja's or in the Kardar's conduct.

Held kucherry as usual; was caught on the road by a heavy fall of rain.

26th June—Chujjia.—Climbed the mountain to the little fort of Chujjia, 5,500 feet high, between two enormous rocks of blue mountain limestone, thinly sprinkled with shrubs belonging to the mountain called Sri Bungh, which is of the same character, but probably 1,500 feet higher.

Nothing can be more wretched than the mountain despite its pure air and genial temperature. I have never before visited this castle, which I had built when first I settled the district. The post is important, overawing Goolterie and part of Khaunpoor. A note last night from Captain Nicholson informed me that he had secured Lieutenant Hamilton. who upon the threat of rougher treatment had confest himself to be one Kielly from the Depôt of H. M.'s 61st Regiment at Jullundur anxious to rejoin his corps at Peshawur without incurring the penalties of desertion. I must not forget to record that this man confirms the reports I had heard of His Highness of Jumboo having concealed the greater number of his guns on Captain Mackeson's approach. He says that there are 600 guns at Cashmere.

J. ABBOTT, Captain,
Deputy Commissioner.

PESHAWUR POLITICAL DIARIES,

1847 AND 1848.

Peshawur Political Diaries, 1847.

[*Note.*—Major George St. P. Lawrence was Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, until the 4th of November 1847, when he left for Lahore, leaving Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident in charge.]

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No. 1.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 24th, to Saturday, the 30th January 1847.

25th January 1847.—Arrived at Wuzeerabad: visited the camp of Colonel Ruttun Singh, who said that not more than 100 of his regiment had arrived, and that it would be 26 days before all were present. He had heard a rumour of Batta beyond the Indus. In the evening a Jemadar, Azimootoollah Khan, late of the 4th Troop, 2nd Cavalry, now of the Govind Regiment, called on me, and from him I heard that his regiment would be complete in four days, and that more of Colonel Ruttun Singh's regiments were present than represented, also of the other Sikh Regiments, Colonel Meer Jung Ali (*sic*), though the Colonel had not arrived; the Jemadar is anxious to accompany me to Peshawur.

26th, 27th, 28th January.—Nothing. Marched to Goojrat on the 27th; heavy rain. Marched to Kharrian; rain: received a petition from certain villagers that Moortazah Shah had fined them Rs. 50 for a robbery on some traders and otherwise ill-treated them.

29th January.—Arrived at Jhelum; received several petitions: forwarded them to Lahore.

30th January.—Arrived at Ruttian, distant four *coss* from Rhotas, which I visited *en route*. Goman, zemindar of Kokur, brought a petition against Wuzeer Mungul Singh of having fined him Rs. 1,008, which petition he had submitted to the Resident, Lahore, who referred to Fakeer Churaghooddeen, who passed an order that Missar Roop Lal, Kardar of Rhotas, should investigate it; he declining to do so, petitioner has come to me. I have referred him back to Roop Lal, and then to Lahore, should he still decline obeying orders.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.,
in progress to Peshawur.

No. 2.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 31st January, to Saturday, the 6th February 1847.

31st January 1847.—Marched to Dhirmak. Heavy rain all night.

1st February.—Marched to Mimikwalla. Sirdar Chuttur Singh looks as if he had been and is very ill. Told him that it was said that his son Sirdar Outar Singh at Peshawur oppressed the people; he replied that orders would be sent that all my wishes should be attended to. Mr. Apothecary Thompson prescribed for him. The Sirdar presented Rs. 600, a horse, and sundry trays of shawls, etc. Heavy rain all night.

2nd February.—Marched to Rawul Pindee; consulted with Dewan Jowala Sahai and by his advice wrote to certain zemindars to come in and meet us; sent the letters accordingly; have agreed to halt four or five days.

3rd February.—Messrs. Agnew and Lumsden arrived at 11½ A.M. from Huzara; they represent that the people are all willing to tender allegiance to Maharajah Golab Singh on his guaranteeing to them what they held in the time of Sirdar Hurree Singh. Held a long consultation with Dewan Jowala Sahai, who agrees to give sunnuds on behalf of his master, Golab Singh, to all who will come in, guaranteeing their Jageers and *rihasut* as held in Hurree Singh's time. The brother of Ameen Khan, chief of Puckley, came in with the gentlemen with whom he had done good service, and was introduced to the Dewan, who promised all he asked. General Kahn Singh's troops are to arrive on the 5th.

4th February.—A long consultation with the Dewan, who gave in our presence the Maharajah's sunnud for Ameen Khan to his brother, who took his *ruksut* to shew it quickly to the Hill people as a proof that the Dewan was empowered satisfactorily to arrange their affairs. We hope much from this.

5th February.—General Kahn Singh's troops arrived this morning. The General with Sirdar Golab Singh, Attariwalla, and the Commandants and Staff of Corps paid me a visit. I told them that Lieutenant Lumsden had reported most favorably of their good service, which should be made known at Lahore, where every endeavor was being made for the

good of the old soldiers of the State, etc.; that they must exert themselves to put down the system of plundering the villages, etc. They left seemingly well pleased; I am to see them on parade to-morrow. Held a long consultation with Dewan Jowala Sahai. Gama Khan of Tomair and the Suttee zemindars have come in. He says if I will only help him a little longer, all will come. While talking, the Resident's letters to the Maharajah and Dewan arrived; I handed them over, and he read them aloud and begged I would represent his entire devotion to us and willingness to be guided by us. I must do him the justice to say that he seems most anxious to do his best for the settlement of the country, and most willing to act up to all our suggestions. Many complaints have come in against the Sikh Troops: the General, at my request, has placed safeguards in the villages.

6th February 1847.—Inspected the Troops of General Kahn Singh, and expressed my gratification at their soldierlike appearance. Those for Lahore will march on the 10th and for Peshawur on the 11th instant; they require some rest. Dewan Jowala Sahai brought the Nawab Hyder Buksh, Soobha of Kanpoor, with a zemindar, the Nannu of the Suttees (*sic*); the latter returns with one of the Guides to bring in others and intelligence. Sirdar Golab Singh represents that Sirdar Bhoor Singh's Horse have not had pay for five months.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 3.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 7th, to Saturday, the 13th February 1847.

7th February 1847.—Dewan Jowala Sahai suggests that the four Kohistanee Regiments in the Sikh service about to be disbanded on return from Huzara should be transferred to Maharajah Golab Singh; in a note of yesterday to the Resident I suggested the same.

8th February.—Rained hard all last night and all day, which will delay our march which we had settled for to-morrow, the ground being too slippery for camels. Heard from General Kahn Singh that his forces

were directed to lodge their arms at Rhotas. I complimented him on there being no complaints of plunder for the last three days, and hoped the same good order would attend his march to Lahore; he replied that if Sirdar General Golab Singh's troops did not march at the same time he would guarantee it.

9th February 1847.—Dewan Jowala Sahai agrees that the number of Kardars in Huzara shall be reduced to four or five. Messrs. Agnew and Lumsden represented to him that they only oppressed the people and forced them into rebellion.

10th February.—General Kahn Singh's four regiments marched towards Lahore. A Kohistanee Regiment of Sirdar Sher Singh's with four guns, all under command of Sookh Singh, remain at Rawal Pindee pending orders from Lahore as to the Kohistanee Regiments being transferred to Maharajah Golab Singh or not: the carriages of the guns are under repair. Sirdar General Golab Singh wants 15 days' leave to visit his father and thence to go to the capital.

12th February.—Marched from Rawal Pindee to Janeeke Sung: on taking leave of the Kardar of Pindee, I held a quiet conversation with him as to his treatment of those under him.

13th February.—Marched to Kalley ke Serai: a news-letter from Peshawur of the 11th announces the death on the 4th at Jelallabad of Sirdar Mahomed Akbar Khan; the news-writer it is said may be depended upon.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 4.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 14th, to Saturday, the 20th February 1847.

14th February 1847.—Marched to Hussan Abdall. Futteh Khan, Chief of Gaybi, presented Rs. 100. He had taken refuge in Huzara from the persecution of Dewan Moolraj: sent his case to Lahore and told him to accompany Mr. Agnew to Hurkishengurh till an answer should arrive, and the Dewan Moolraj not to molest his family till then. Mr.

Agnew accompanied me to Hussan Abdall with a view to our meeting the Gundghur Chiefs and, if possible, putting a stop to their plundering the road, etc. They (five) came to us and sat three hours; their demands are great, but we hope to reduce them. I sent them to be fed and housed by the Kardar accompanied by one of my own men, but they sent back word that they preferred catering for themselves. I sent them Rs. 50. Their looks do not belie their present vocation. The arrival of two akhbars from Peshawur and the brother of Ameenoollah Khan at Peshawur, confirm the report of Sirdar Mahomed Akbar Khan's death. Nawab Zeman Khan is likewise said to be dead; he befriended the Cabul hostages.

15th February 1847.—At a long interview with the Gundghur Chief it was settled that a paper of grievances should be forwarded to Lahore, they refraining from all acts of plunder till an answer reached them through Mr. Agnew at Hurkishengurh: they appear most willing, if they get subsistence from the State, and absolution for the past, to give up marauding. They have Sikhs, Hindoostanees and Afghans in their gangs—all these they engage to discharge. They plunder the whole line of country from the Margulla Pass to the Attock: the Kardars plead inability to prevent them from want of force; the nature of the country is favorable for marauding, being jungly and raviny. We parted from Mr. Agnew at 12 o'clock, he halting for the day and we starting for Kootuha. It rained heavily all night. Lieutenant Lumsden and I inspected the ground about Hussan Abdall; to the north there is a good high plain well adapted for troops; that occupied by Sirdar Bhoor Singh's house is very objectionable, being commanded in front and flank by high ground. I consider Hussan Abdall, in a military view, a better location for troops than Rawal Pindee; it is only said to be unhealthy for two months in the year. Marched to Kootuha.

16th February.—As I was about to march from Kootuha, General Golab Singh arrived with a few men, and said one regiment would join me at Khairabad, if I would halt to-morrow. Agreed. Three or four miles from Attock at Cazeeabad passed through the camp of Colonels Boodh and Buhadur Singh: these gentlemen rode with me for some time. The whole of the zemindars of Chuch in the Kardarship of Asa Nund beset me at their several villages, shrieking forth their grievances and followed me to the river, where they were stopped, said to be by Asa Nund's

orders. I sent and had them crossed over. A portion of the urzees I have sent to the Resident; many may be frivolous and groundless, but when a people come forth *en masse* to complain in this manner there must be something radically wrong. As my time would not admit of investigating their complaints, I would suggest that either some one be sent from Lahore to do so, or they and the Kardar be ordered to Peshawur. Near the ruins of the old city of Attock, from the window of a large building on the right of the road, hung by the neck the body of a man in a decomposed state, said to have been a robber by some, by others late a servant of the Killadar, Sirdar Bhaug Singh. Inspected the fortress, which is a large straggling place, admitting of troops being brought close under its walls, and capable of little resistance to guns of any calibre—the walls are of stone, in parts ten or twelve feet thick; the upper defences not more than two or three feet; in the upper part of the fort are two bastions for guns and a semi-circular battery in the centre facing the river; in the lower only one point where six guns might be placed. There are only three guns in the fort; two kutcha powder magazines, one in the upper and one in the lower; a sally port at the west end leading to the river from whence water may be brought without exposure to fire from without; there are some water wells within the fort. A portion, the largest of the town, is on the south side without the fort close under the walls. On the opposite bank of the river the Fort of Khairabad, of stone, completely commanded from the heights in its rear, on which there are three small towers; it was washed away by the great flood of 1840. Attock is held at present by a garrison of 5 or 600 matchlocks; it would hold at least 5,000; and to man its walls would take at least that number.

17th February 1847.—Halted. General Golab Singh with one regiment marched this morning. Complaints flocking in from the district of Chuch. Colonel Ram Dass from Peshawur met me, having been deputed by the Governor.

18th February.—Marched to Akhora. Many urzees received; the people will not believe that the British are not the rulers of the country, though I have it explained a dozen times a day.

19th February.—Marched to Pubbee. More urzees; and the villagers here brought them with fire on their heads, in presence of the Bukshee,

Chowdry and Kazee of Peshawur; the complaints of oppression are grievous. The whole road from Attock is lined with a succession of chowkees, occupied by 300 footmen, under Kumurooddeen Khan, who is said to have 200 horse under him also.

20th February 1847.—Entered the city of Peshawur in state with the Governor, Sirdar Uttur Singh, the Barukzye Sirdars, General Goordut Singh, Mehtab Singh, John Holmes, etc., etc. Inspected Goordut Singh's troops at Chumkunnee on passing—their march is delayed for want of carriage, so say the authorities. Paraded through the city to my tents under the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur. My arrival has caused great excitement; the whole city poured forth its inhabitants, who, unawed by the Sikh authorities, welcomed me with acclamations and shouts for justice! The report of Sirdar Mahomed Akbar Khan's death is quite true; the Ghilzies are in rebellion, and the whole country disturbed.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 5.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 21st, to Saturday, the 27th February 1847.

21st February 1847.—I sent for General Goordut Singh and enquired why he did not march: want of carriage. I recommended that he and his troops should leave all baggage in excess of actual necessaries, such as merchandise, and under a guard to follow; that I had in the morning seen no less than 18 camel-loads of almonds at his house; he promised compliance. I deeply regret that one of my first acts should be turning a deaf ear to the complaint of merchants, ninety of whose camels have been seized to expedite the march of these troops. I could only direct the Bukshee to pay them their hire to Rawal Pindee, and promise to write then to the Kardar for them to be relieved: 18 camels seized by Goordut Singh belonging to Naib Mahomed Shureef, the Sirdar wrote to the General to give them up, but he answered "that his men would not let him." Notwithstanding my orders, the General did not prevent his men and others destroying their cantonment, pleading the same excuse of inability to restrain

them: he seems perfectly reckless, and I trust the Durbar will make an example of him. Complaints are pouring in faster than three moonshees can read them. The Sirdar entertained my camp yesterday. I declined it to-day; he is a lad of 15, entirely led by those about him, the Bukshee being the head, who is represented in glowing colors as a cruel oppressor of the poor. I rode through the cantonment with General Golab Singh—all the ground has been cultivated by the officers and men and the vacant lines are in ruins.

22nd February 1847.—General Golab Singh reports the arrival of his troops. The Sirdar at my desire wrote to General Goordut Singh directing him to march, leaving his heavy baggage behind under a guard, without effect. He marched carrying all. I held a Durbar, at which the Sirdar presented all the civil and military authorities, who presented nuzzurs. Crowds of complainants throng my tent from morning to night. Sent for Colonel John Holmes, who says his duty in the city is solely to keep the peace, sending all who act in breach of it to the Sirdar. Sent for the Morning Reports and Disposition Returns of Regiments.

23rd February.—I called at 8 A.M. on General Golab Singh; circulated a proclamation with the Sirdar's approval to the effect that no complaint beyond a year would be attended to; that all petitions should first be made to the Sirdar and if not attended to brought to me when I would, in concert with the Durbar authorities, investigate them, punishing all false complainants; that the urzees shall be of a certain size with date, name of parties, etc., etc. It had greatly eased the minds of all in authority, who quaked for their old offences. Colonel Ram Dass, Kardar of Kuttuck, against whom there are at least sixty petitions, is trying to settle them by paying half and taking razeenamas.

24th February.—At 4 P.M. yesterday Lieutenant Lumsden accompanied me to return the Sirdar's visit. General's Golab Singh and Mehtab Singh with Regiment Commandants and the civil authorities met us: we sat an hour and passed compliments. I then presented the Sirdar with a gold watch and chain, he giving us khilluts. He then showed us all over the Gor Khuttry, telling us he would be happy if we would occupy either the whole or any part of it. On going and returning

we passed through the principal streets of the city, the Bukshee, Chowdry, and all the Generals escorting us back to our tents. My proclamation of the 23rd appears to have tranquillized the minds of many, both high and low; the former as freeing them from being called to account beyond a year, the latter, disabusing their minds of the idea that I was about to assume the reigns of government. One petition brought to me stated that now the *raj* of Sikhs was at an end, the Mahomedans hoped they might call the *azans* loudly! I have offers from all sides of service from old retainers of Major Mackeson, but I declined all, saying my orders were to have nothing to do with relations beyond the Sikh dominions. Bukshee Jawahur and the Cazee called to show that they were settling many complaints It is said the Bukshee is trying to get razeenamas from the people, promising to cease oppressing them.

25th February 1847.—Intelligence from Cabul is that Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan has reached Jellalabad; that the late Sirdar Mahomed Akbar Khan left his property to his brother Hyder Khan and his sword to Mahomed Afzul Khan, and directed his body should be taken to Khoolloom. The Afghans are represented as in a state of alarm, conceiving my arrival forebodes our approach to Cabul. I have received several letters from the Khyber Chiefs, but have assured them we have no call for their services. I take every opportunity of making this known. In concert with the Sirdar and General Golab Singh, Povindia, I have ordered a parade of all the Khalsa Troops for to-morrow, and requested the Sirdar to send all the Ramgoles (Irregulars) off duty. I have not fixed upon a residence yet; the Fort is objectionable as excluding the free ingress of petitioners; the Generals represent the Wuzeer Bagh as too distant from the cantonment, which it certainly is, to admit of that close supervision of the troops and attention to their affairs which the Governor-General's minute points out as my first object. They say that a portion of General Avitabile's house, now occupied by the Sirdar Uttur Singh, might be well spared and portioned off for our accommodation, the Sirdar and his people only occupying a part of the upper story. They all profess great pleasure at the idea of my taking up my abode there; I doubt them.

26th February 1847.—Last evening called on the Sirdar and with him went over all his house, late General Avitabile's, which certainly might be divided off for us both, without putting the Sirdar or his followers to any inconvenience. The parade this morning went off most orderly and correctly; the force looked well under arms. It wants guns and cavalry much; a return, I hope, may accompany my next diary. General Golab Singh is most attentive and calls almost daily. I have issued two more *ishtihars*, copies I have sent to the Resident; they appear to be well received.

27th February.—Visited Sirdar Peer Mahomed, Barukzye, and went over one of his houses to see if it would suit us; don't think it will. He presented me with 15 trays of fruit and two horses; his brother, Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan, presented three trays and one horse. The authorities say they have no money to pay the Ramgoles (Irregulars); the Bukshee is to visit me to-night to explain why. I have just had the duftrys with me, who make out the arrears due to be Rs. 1,62,521-2-14 (*sic*), nearly four month's pay.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 6.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 28th February, to Saturday, the 6th March 1847.

28th February 1847.—I transacted no business to-day beyond receiving the returns of the army from General Golab Singh and giving him the draft of a general order to issue to the troops, calling upon them, with reference to the new order of things, to pay prompt attention to orders, respecting their officers, and explaining how their complaints were to be made and attended to; that the parade ground which has hitherto been cultivated up to their very huts, should revert to its proper state; all cultivation to cease. Have fixed for my residence an old *mukhurah* to the left of the lines, close to General Golab Singh's residence; it is much out of repair, but its proximity to the troops will enable me both to carry out the Governor-General's wishes that my first object should be the care of them and the reconciling them to the change of system. The General is highly pleased at my resolution and offered me his own

house, which I declined, telling him he had done more than enough in giving me the *mukburah* hitherto occupied by his retainers, and used by General Goordut Singh as a workshop. Durreah Khan, who escaped from Umritsur, is reported to have arrived near this. I have given out that if he gives security and comes in, he will be pardoned. His Fort is within eight *coss* of this. Accounts from Cabul and Jellalabad represent the Afghans to be much more than usually divided among themselves, the eastern Ghilzies trusting to none but their respective chiefs, Azeez Khan, Khoda Buksh Khan and Mahomed Shah Khan, all at issue ; Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan at Jellalabad trying to get them in to himself and to adjust their discords ineffectually. Grain of all kinds is very cheap. A sepoy of the Jamrood Garrison is reported to have been murdered by the Afreedees : two went out to a mill to grind atta ; were attacked, one escaped, one fell.

1st March 1847.—Mustered the Corps of Guides under Lieutenant Lumsden ; changed ground from the Fort to the cantonment, passing all the day at the Sirdar's with Lieutenant Lumsden in settling complaints, the young Sirdar sitting on his chair next me, listlessly watching the *ghurry*, and giving his seal when required, replying when asked his opinion on a case, "Certainly, what you please," "As you think proper"; and more work was got through than the Sirdar has done in the last week. I caused to be released a prisoner who had been confined six months on suspicion of theft, accused by the lover of his wife, with whom she has been living eleven months ; on making her over to the husband, the lover produced a receipt sealed by the Judge of the Adalut for 21 rupees, the price he declared he had paid for the lady ! The Judge declared it was fine for criminal conversation, but receipts are not given by the Court for fines. On asking for the register to see if the Sirkar had been credited, a fresh entry was apparent ! I further abolished the monopoly of *maida*, which Sardar Shere Singh had established ; two shops paid 1,300 rupees per annum to the State for it, the revenue thus accruing in no way compensatory for the odium of so unjust and oppressive an act : the settlement of these two cases was hailed by the assembled multitude with shouts of applause; our passage through the city was in like manner loudly greeted and our justice invoked *far* and *near*. I had a long conversation with the young Sirdar's deputies as to the mode of settling the complaints and preserving their *purdah*, with other matters connected with the

administration. I asked General Golab Singh to be present, which he was, and aided us with his advice and experience; he is well disposed to assist me in everything, as is also his son, Colonel Uttur Singh, who is shrewd and intelligent.

2nd March 1847.—This being the last day of the *Holee*, the Sirdar sent to say he wished to *pooja*, and hoped we would not go to the Gor Khuttry. I therefore heard complaints at my tent. In the evening General Golab Singh came with the Bukshee and Chowdry and begged for a private interview; the two latter were in a great state of alarm, and it was with much difficulty I got them to speak; they first solicited pardon for past offences, promising future amendment. They then stated that my coming had raised the whole populace against them, who were loud in complaints; that they dare not leave their houses, and their orders were unattended to; that their lives were not safe; that they had only been in office six months; that my enquiries extended to 12, how could they answer for Shere Singh's period; that many acts had been done in both which were allowed by the Khalsa, but not by our laws; that fines of all degrees were imposed, some of which went to the Sirkar and some to themselves and other Generals, and that they were ready to give up their own share of the spoil, but how could they do so with that of the Sirkar and Generals, and much more to the same purpose; that they had time to arrange with the complainants, and had with some, but the most were so unreasonable, even demanding interest, that it was impossible to do so; that I alone could save them and their master, the young Sirdar, from disgrace; that whatever I wished they would do now and for the future: and I pacified them as well as I could, urged them to settle as much as possible, and that I would do my best both for them and the petitioners. There can be no doubt that much oppression has prevailed, but then it should be remembered that a year or six months since it was little thought that they would have to render a strict account of all their deeds. Some allowance must therefore be made for the authorities, more especially as they only followed the custom of the country. Reports from Afghanistan are that Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan is at Jellalabad with 6,000 men, and has sent some Jezailchees into the Khyber; this has alarmed the authorities here not a little. They say that a lakh of *Bundook* can be raised in this province, and all would be happy to rise against the Sikhs, and for what purpose has the Ameer come to

Jellalabad? It is said that Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, has secured eight lakhs of rupees of his late son-in-law, Mahomed Akbar Khan, with which he has fled to his own Fort, and will not join Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, saying he depended on himself alone. Sirdars Peer Mahomed and Syed Mahomed, Barukzyes, with their sons and nephews, called on me, and after mutual compliments and their expression of joy at my arrival and the benefit it was to the country, Sirdar Peer Mahomed said that he was our servant for ever—all he had was ours; that his two guns at Kohat or his elephant was at my service; etc., etc. I rode in the morning to inspect the Shah Dund cantonment opposite the Lahore Gate, in which is located the Khas Rissalah and Khas Regiment. Colonel Ram Dass, Kardar of Kuttuck, has brought razeenamas with the zemindars, who have certified to their correctness.

3rd March 1847.—Rode to the cantonment of Bukshee Kishun Singh, formed 10 months since by Sirdar Shere Singh for Rajah Soochet Singh's regiment, and now occupied by only a company of Ramgoles for its protection. The zemindars about bitterly complain of the formation of the cantonment, and the oppression they experienced from the sowars and officers of the Khas Rissalah, who cultivate the ground on their own account, and that Bukshee Kishun Singh, Commandant of Soochet Singh's regiment, has left his *Motbur* to realise the produce of the zemindar's land. I find Colonel John Holmes some time since reported to the Durbar the seizure of land by General Goordut Singh, who was ordered to give it up, but never did. The Custom officer at Attock has given General Goordut Singh a razeenama for the amount of duties levied on the merchandise he and the officers with him took from this, but has not inserted the amount each received. The treasury here is empty; had not 700 rupees to pay back an unjust fine levied on a village in which an old woman hung herself. The fines that have been imposed on all classes here are fearful, and most seem to be *ad libitum* and accruing to the party adjudicating, not to the Sirkar.

4th March.—Received a letter from Taj Mahomed of Cabul enclosing many certificates from officers of service performed, and offering to do any we might wish; replied that I was aware of his good service, but we required nothing done at Cabul, etc. I have sentenced two jemadars and four sepoys of Ramgoles to be discharged the service

and imprisoned for one month, one of the former for ill-treating an Urbob and the latter for a most unjustifiable assault on one of my chuprassees; hope this will have a salutary effect on the rest of this very disorderly crew. From the Fort of Futtehgurh it is reported that three prisoners, Afreedees, taken up for the murder of a sepoy cannot be brought here for trial under fear of a rescue; that they cannot send a sufficient guard with them lest the Fort be weakened. I have ordered a strong party to be detached from the Ramgoles in the city to bring them in. Rode through the city in the evening.

5th March 1847.—It is said that a party of 20 Horse has arrived in the city from Cabul seeking service. Lieutenant Lumsden has had fever for some days, though he continues to work during the day and drill his Guides in the morning: he is most active and useful. I have not yet been able to get a sight of the Peshawur accounts; am told they are being written out afresh with a view to show all square; the authorities affirm that the delay is caused by the non-arrival of Kardars. The Khyber is closed to Kafilas; they take the lower or Tartarah road, paying toll to the Momunds Re. 1 per horse, 8 annas per man, and loaded camels 4 rupees. Hearing that the authorities did not like our going to the city to investigate complaints, we have ceased doing so, making my tent the court, and having either the Bukshee or Chowdry present, the Sirdar doing his part by such as we brought before him, which are comparatively very few. I do my best to keep his and the authorities' *purdah*, but it is most difficult.

6th March.—Sirdar Peer Mahomed expresses himself greatly pleased at my having written to his brother, Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, to come to Peshawur. He offered me his two guns or elephant, and I told him I would borrow the guns for a time, as we had but few here. I gave him and Sirdar Syed Mahomed khilluts on taking leave: if words are to be believed, they are our friends; our coming has certainly improved their position in *izzut*, etc. The young Sirdar sent to know if he can make to-morrow a *roze tateel* as we did: I replied he might please himself in every way, etc., etc.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 7.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 7th, to Saturday, the 13th March 1847.

7th March 1847.—Did no work to-day beyond receiving the returns of the army.

8th March.—Rode with Lieutenant Lumsden to the Fort of Jumrood or Futtehgurh, about 12 miles from Peshawur; two chowkeys of Urbob sepoys are on the road. The Fort is in good repair, has a garrison of 200 matchlocks and 30 Artillery, 3 guns; the men complain of being nine months in arrears. There is one well and a *bowlie*, neither affording much water; a stream comes from the Khyber, but for two months has been stopped, said to be owing to the Afreedees' pay not being forthcoming for that period. The citadel is much shaken from the firing of the gun, the grain in store excepting *makaie* is of Avitabile's time, mouldy and worm-eaten; the powder-magazine is in a mud hut; there are three gates with three lines of defence inclusive of the citadel, which is a lofty tower in the centre; the second line of defence is an octagon with 8 bastions, the lower square with 12; the whole is capable of holding 2,000 men; it has accommodation now for 500.

I released this evening 14 prisoners who had been in confinement from two to six months. Had a conversation with the young Sirdar, who opened it by saying he hoped I would take him by the hand as my brother had the Maharajah, to which I replied I was most willing and ready.

9th March.—The Lahore Akhbar mentions that orders had been sent on Dewan Moolraj of Pind Dadun Khan for 1,25,000 rupees, and on Peshawur for 20,000 rupees in payment of two months' arrears to the troops of General Golab Singh. Knowing that the order on this is not likely to be realised for some time and fearing lest the other be delayed, I would suggest that hoondees on the Soucars of Peshawur be sent in advance so as to have two months' pay always ready for the troops; this should be done even if by so doing the Lahore Troops are kept out of their pay. Rupees 1,55,000 are required for two months' pay of the Regulars under General Golab Singh.

I have confined eight sepoys of the Ramgoles for leaving their regiment, on service in the Eusufzye country, to complain of their being

in arrears. I had hardly done this when 38 men of Colonel Ram Dass' corps of Ramgoles presented themselves with a similar complaint. I have ordered them to be discharged when paid. What to do about these men I know not; there are said to be 5,000 of them, and all are from 8 to 11 months in arrears, and the treasury is empty, with no prospect of its being filled. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed writes his brother Peer Mahomed Khan in grateful terms of my permitting him to return to his country and of his being heart and soul ours.

10th March 1847.—We rode to the Fort of Barrah, which is on the bank of the river of the same name. This river furnishes the city and lands of Peshawur with water : the stream near the Fort is portioned off to the city and zemindars in different streams under the orders of a *Meer Aubee*, who farms it at 1,000 rupees a year, the money going to the private purse of the Governor; its distribution, as may be supposed, is the source of much oppression, the rich paying the most get the lion's share and the lands of the zemindars are left unsupplied. In General Avitabile's time it was pretty equally apportioned, for though he ground the poor he let no others do so : his code, though oppressive in our eyes, has ever since been so grievously carried out on the lower classes (*sic*) that they look back to it with sighs and hail any return to it with delight.

The Fort is a square of 85 paces with an outer defence and deep ditch, 20 feet in width. Three bastions in the inner part are solid and capable of holding guns, the fourth not so; the outer walls loopholed for musketry. The powder-magazine is in a pucka arched roof, mud above, 'tis small; the garrison are said to be 100 matchlocks. I only saw 50: no guns, only 2 zamboors and no zamboorchees. The Fort could hold 1,000 men. There is one well, but it is dry. A deep water cut runs along the north face within a few feet of the ditch : the stores of grain are all mouldy and useless ; no attention is paid to them.

Intelligence from Gundamuck is that a kafila was plundered close to the village by Azeez Khan, Ghilzie. The state of the country from the Khyber to Cabul is represented as desperate.

11th March.—Inspected the stores of the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur and ordered lists to be prepared ; of grain there is little ; the magazines of regiments are pretty complete, but save powder and lead there are no

spare stores. The Fort is in good order, would hold 6 or 7,000 men; it has only one nine-pounder and two one-pounders; the defences are three with gates to each, a good ditch and bastions, all capable of holding guns; it commands the city; is built on the site of the ancient Bala Hissar; it is garrisoned by Ramgoles and is under the orders of the Governor. Sirdar Peer Mahomed, Barukzye, sent me his two guns, which I have parked with those of the Sikhs, returning his men and horses.

The prisoners, Eusufzyes, in Attock are continually writing me to effect their release. I think it would be politic.

At my suggestion the young Sirdar has issued an *ishtahar* calling for tenders for the Government contracts for the ensuing year 19, which commenced to-day.

12th March 1847.—Commenced investigating the complaints of the Tuppa of Khalsa, the Kardarship of Dhurbara Singh.

Informed that Kumuroodden Khan has ill-treated some complainants against him, who took urzees from me for him to settle: recommended the Sirdar to confine him.

Had an auction of nuzzur horses and yaboos, which sold for 941 rupees. Generals Golab Singh, Mehtab Singh, and the other officers of the army with the Bukshee Jawahur Singh, and Chowdry attended.

Comparatively few complaints from the city are coming in. I hear the Kutwal's daily reports. Tried three cases of murder and cutting down and sent them to Lahore for orders. Released three Eusufzyes, servants of Afzal Khan, son of Ameer Khan of Sidoom, who have been with their master in confinement ten months; their master remains pending orders from Lahore.

13th March.—Intelligence from Cabul and Jellalabad is that the Ghilzies all continue at issue; that Nawab Jubbur Khan intends paying a visit to his brothers, Sirdars Sultan Mahomed, Peer Mahomed Khan and Syud Mahomed, Barukzyes, and taking that opportunity to ascertain the object of my being here.

General Golab Singh has issued a general order to the troops, pointing out their duty on guards, warning them against leaving them, etc. His son, Colonel Alla Singh, was present yesterday when I was

trying a case of a sepoy cutting down a prisoner under a sentry's charge. He asked me our rules and has evidently adopted them. He is a very intelligent officer, apparently most desirous of improving himself and the troops by intercourse with us. The General has put a stop to the officers and men cultivating the parade: he is constantly with us.

The crops are suffering from want of rain.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 8.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 14th, to Saturday, the 20th March 1847.

14th March 1847.—A general parade of troops under Golab Singh marched past in review, and formed line from columns; the General tells me that they are much pleased with the new arrangements. I have directed that any grievance they may have should be instantly made known to me. A Sergeant of Colonel Maun Singh's Poorbeas complained that all the grades in his corps were sold, the Colonel receiving all the money; that as he would not pay, his position was made unsupportable. General Golab Singh is to inquire into it and report.

The soldiers complain that the Bunneahs of the city will not take the rupees served out to them as pay, from their not being of the year 1984. Orders have been issued that all rupees issued from the treasury to be taken.

Rode through the city in the evening.

15th March.—Intelligence from Jellalabad is that Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan has sent his troops under his sons, Mahomed Afzul and Hyder Khan, against Azeez Khan, Ghilzie, himself remaining on the banks of the river near Jellalabad.

The Paymaster of the troops arrived to-day with two months' pay; I desired the General to explain to him that he must be cautious what rupees he issued as I would not suffer short weight ones or any on which *butta* could be demanded to be given; that my chief duty was to see the troops regularly paid. He replied that he could only

answer for the money he received in bills, but such as came from Lahore in specie he was obliged to take; that he would write to the Paymaster-General, if I would do the same by the Resident.

I have been engaged for some days in taking the Revenue accounts; have had up the contractors of 100 villages yielding Rs. 2,50,000 who are defaulters to the amount of Rs. 30,000. They all plead inability to realise assets from various causes; that many only took the contracts being forced on them by Sirdar Sher Singh; among them are large Jaghirdars and Urbobs receiving many thousands a year for former services. I have already reported that there is no money in the Peshawur Treasury; that the Ramgoles are in arrears from 9 to 11 months. I can procure one or two lakhs of rupees for bills on Ferozepoor or Lahore, and if sanctioned would pay up and discharge 1,500 or 2,000 of these men and so save the State from 15 to 20,000 rupees monthly.

16th March 1847.—By this day's Akhbar from Lahore I see the troops are being paid for the months of December and January, while those here are only getting for the two previous months. I note this that the Resident may arrange with the Durbar that the Peshawur Troops should never be in arrears more than two months.

The Afreedees have sent a message that till they get Rs. 1,000 a month they will not let any water into the Fort of Futtehgurh, they have commenced plundering in a small way in the villages near the Khyber. I have directed the Urbobs who are in Government pay to take measures to put a stop to it.

17th March.—I am preparing lists of the stores in the different forts; excepting in Shahmeer Ghur there are no munitions of war in any, and in it there is little beyond lead, powder and shot. General Golab Singh is preparing lists of those with the troops of Horse Artillery, which, I regret to say, are in a very inefficient state; they have little beyond men and guns. Horses and harness are especially needed; the men are a rough and ready soldierlike looking set.

I attended the issue of pay this morning to the Khas Regiment and General Elahee Buksh's Artillery, which appeared to please the men much.

The Paymasters promptly attended to my wishes in regard to some doubtful points which I gave in favor of the soldiers.

Intelligence is confirmed of the Cabul Troops under Dost Mahomed's sons having proceeded against Mahomed Shah Khan and Azeez Khan, Ghilzies. These two are at enmity amongst themselves, but opposed to the Ameer; they act independently. With Mohamed Shah is Khoda Buksh Khan and his brother, Azad Khan of Tezeen.

Attended the issue of pay to General Mehtab Singh's Regiment.

19th March 1847.—Four companies of Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment were paid in my presence; they having recently joined from leave; there were deductions to make which delayed the issue, the men were aware of their nature and were satisfied. It, however, took up so much time that I sent the left wing to their lines to attend to-morrow.

Lieutenant Lumsden accompanied me last evening to dine at the Governor's and see fireworks and a *nautch*; he had so often invited us that I did not like any longer to decline—civil and military authorities attended. We left at 8 P.M.

The Governor at my suggestion and the General's has recalled the troops from the Eusufzye country, where they had been since September, nominally collecting revenue, but really realizing none.

20th March.—Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan's letter in reply to mine is merely complimentary. The *Cossid* (messenger) who brought it says that the Ameer left Jellalabad on the 18th for the Ghilzie campaign; his letter is written by Abdool Sumee Khan, of whom so much mention is made by Dr. Wolff in his late journey to Bokhara.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 9.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 21st, to Saturday, the 27th March 1847.

21st March 1847.—It is reported in a letter from Hussan Abdall that the Gundghurries have burnt down the cantonment of Sirdar Bhoor Singh, which was not difficult to do, as it was hedged in by dry thorns.

22nd March.—Two companies of Muzbys in Colonel Ram Dass' Regiment of Ramgoles were ordered by the Governor to march and

occupy the Fort of Futtehgurh. They pleaded inability to move, without pay; then, that without my order they would not; they sent in an urzee (petition) saying that they wanted to be removed from under Ram Dass' command, that he employed them continually in his private affairs, and that they had previously belonged to another corps. I had them all up, and in their presence pointed out to their officers the impropriety of their conduct, and ordered them to march this morning, one company to Futtehgurh and one to the Fort of Barrah.

A case of cow-killing has been proved against a zemindar of a village not ten miles off; the authorities declare that they have not the power to seize the culprit without I give them the aid of the troops. I mention this to show the state of the country and the weakness of its rulers.

23rd March 1847.—Last night a lad of 14 was apprehended in the act of murdering another younger lad for the sake of his silver ornaments; the culprit is a Hindustani, a confirmed gambler.

Colonel Kahn Singh's two troops of Horse Artillery, 12 guns, arrived yesterday. I met them coming in, and inspected them; the horses are in wretched condition and the equipment most unserviceable. I have ordered an inspection parade of the whole of this arm on the arrival of the guns still absent, when I will report accordingly.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed has written his brother, Sirdar Peer Mahomed, to enquire my wishes as to his mode of entry into Peshawur, whether it shall be private or public; that if the latter, it will redound to our credit, etc., etc. I replied that, on consulting with the local authorities, he should hear; my own opinion is that he should be allowed to make a public entry, and treated in every way with distinction.

24th March.—The cow-killing zemindar has not yet been brought in; I have left it to the authorities with their civil troops, Urbobs and Ramgoles, to secure him, declining to employ the Regulars in such a petty affair.

The arrears of revenue are about Rs 80,000, and I see little chance of realizing it.

Intelligence from Jellalabad is that Mahomed Azeez Khan, Ghilzie, has fled from his fort at———into the higher mountains. Khan Zeman Khan of Gundghur sent a confidential person to me to say that he had restrained his people for five weeks in hopes of some arrangements from Lahore being made; but not hearing of any, two petty chiefs, with their followers, had fired the lines at Hussan Abdall, for which he would punish them. I replied, the only way of saving himself, was to seize and send them to Lahore.

25th March 1847.—The Governor and authorities approve of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed's entry being public. General Golab Singh and Bukshee Jowahur Mull will meet him at Chumkunnee; he is to take up his abode in the city or Wuzeer Bagh, as he pleases; if the former, he is only to keep 40 or 50 soldiers with him, sending the rest to Kohaut and Hushtnugger. I have written him accordingly.

The young Governor, to everything I ask or suggest, replies: "As you please," "You know best"; he never speaks unless addressed, and then merely replies. A kafila from Peshawur was recently plundered near Lallpoora by Sahdut Khan, Momund; the road to Cabul continues infested by banditti.

26th March.—The Governor to-day in conversation expressed himself greatly pleased with my mode of proceeding and said that since my arrival he had not felt the cares of government, that he was now under no apprehension from the disorderly troops (Ramgoles); that the prompt punishment I had inflicted had spread wholesome dread among them; his counsellors were open-mouthed in their laudations.

General Golab Singh with Colonel John Holmes, Soobhan Khan, ex-Colonel, now Commandant, Bhogah Gurriallia, ex-Commandant, now Adjutant, and Subha, ex-Adjutant, now Subedar, waited on me, the three latter to represent their reduction in rank and pay; they are the only officers of the 4th Regiment which went to Cabul with General Golab Singh who have been thus reduced, and they naturally consider it a grievance; besides the loss of rank, their pay is severally reduced, the Colonels from eight per diem to five, Commandants from four to two, and Adjutants one-eight to one.

Colonel Holmes, who commands two regiments, used to receive Rs. 500 per mensem, now gets Rs. 420, still holding the Brigade; by Rajah Lal Singh he was promised on marching for Peshawur Rs. 500 besides provision for his two elder sons! He observed that Colonel Cortlandt, who entered the service years after him, receives Rs. 600 per mensem.

27th March 1847.—We have had some genial showers, which were greatly wanted.

A sepoy of Soobhan Khan's Regiment brought me his pay. Rupees three were light; I had them immediately changed.

All the troops, except those in Eusufzye country, who are expected in to-morrow, have received their pay, and I am happy to say I have only had three complaints; they observe that never was their pay so promptly issued, or with so little annoyance or squabbling.

The chief Paymaster, Neil Chund, Bhuggut Ram's brother, appears most anxious to please me.

The lad who cut down another has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment with hard labor on the roads.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 10.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 28th March, to Saturday, the 3rd April 1847.

28th March 1847.—Lieutenant Lumsden rode to the Doaba Fort. Not being well I did not accompany him. He states that the Fort is situated about 15 miles north-west of Peshawur, on the left bank of the Cabul (or Nagoman) river and five miles from the stream. It is a place of no strength against Artillery; its position in the open and low country, which can be inundated at pleasure, would have been good had it not been commanded by a mound which runs along the south-west face at the distance of a hundred yards. The plan of the fort is an octagon, with small loopholed bastions at the angles, and a circular battery mounting one six-pounder in the centre; it has but one gate and

a wicket; it would accommodate 400 men; the present garrison 120 including Artillery, and zamboorchees for 8 zamboors, of which number 94 were only present; half the men occupy the fort while the rest are distributed in small parties through the village, which is built close under the walls on the south-east face; a mud wall surrounds the village, having a gate at the west end of the principal bazar, which appears to be in a thriving state. The magazine stores are in a mud hut on the eastern side of the fort, but there is no cover for the grain, which is all exposed in mat baskets placed on a chabootra round the battery; the grain is, however, in a better state than any we have seen. There is a good well in the fort. The communication with Peshawur is along a tolerable road intersected at five points by branches of the Cabul river, four of which are fordable, the fifth or main stream is sometimes so, but generally crossed by a ferry at Nahakee, where there are four good boats. The Fort of Doaba is well calculated to keep in check the predatory Momund tribes and affording protection to the small villages in the open country along the foot of the hills, from which it is about three or four miles distant.

29th March 1847.—Nil.

30th March.—Inspected the Horse Artillery, 30 guns: the equipment of all most unserviceable, not more than ten carriages, limbers and carts serviceable; 250 horses and 40 men wanting to complete five troops; 8 of the guns require recasting. I have told General Golab Singh to have two troops completed and made fit for service. Wood is not to be had here for carriages; it can only be got in the Eusufzye district and then not without a large price. I am told there are many Artillery horses at Lahore, which might be sent here with the harness complete. The Artillery General, Elahee Buksh, seems to have looked little after this fine arm: he has hitherto lived in the city, but at my suggestion has moved into cantonments. All the ammunition is carried in hackeries, which in any country, much less this, can never keep up. I would recommend the substitution of mules or camels.

31st March.—Two villages have had a fight about water; three men wounded. I am investigating it.

Sent three sets of Guides to ascertain the number of Kumuroodeen Khan's men on the road hence to Attock they report them to be not more than 25; he is paid for 500!

It is rumoured that an officer proceeding from Bunnoo Tank towards this has been obliged to return. This I cannot credit, though Lieutenant Edwardes did think of trying that route. Saw three regiments of Infantry exercise on their own parades; they work very slowly: two in the French, one English mode. General Golab Singh was also looking on; he has ordered all to be out twice a week to exercise in front of their own lines.

1st April 1847.—Hearing some firing in the direction of the Khyber at 4 P.M., Lieutenant Lumsden with some Sikh Sowars and his Guide Cavalry rode in that direction, though it was raining hard: it turned out to be a marriage procession. The Attock prisoners arrived this morning: are lodged in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur. I saw them this evening. They are all Eusufzyes and I think have been hardly dealt with. Bharam Khan, the son of Ursulla Khan, came in to make his submission to Sirdar Shere Singh; was seized and imprisoned, though the Sikhs admit that he and his father had done good service. I hope to make a settlement for the revenue of their country through them.

2nd April.—The Sirdar sent to tell me that it was reported in the city cows were being killed and asked what he should do? I replied at once to have the parties seized. The arrival of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed is causing a great sensation and rather alarms the Sikh authorities. They want me to sanction their hanging the cow-killers, but this I have told them I cannot do. They declare unless it is done, their authority will altogether cease.

3rd April.—Engaged in investigating the cow-killing cases. There is no doubt many have been slain; have confined five men as concerned in it. Have received Rs. 17,250 from shroffs of the city for Bills on Loodianah at par, Nanukshahee rupees for Sonats, and am promised Rs. 7,150 more at the same rate; but if I want more I shall have to pay a premium of from eight annas to one rupee per cent. I have received a note from Lieutenant Edwardes of the 25th instant from Bunnoo Tank. I have little hope of for some time obtaining any correct information from Bokhara or Khiva.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 11.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 4th, to Saturday, the 10th April 1847.

4th April 1847.—This morning Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, Barukzye, returned to Peshawur with his family after a lapse of seven years. I met him by appointment at the Governor's; he was received with every possible attention, General Golab Singh and Bukshee Jawahur Mull meeting him at Chumkunnee, six miles off, and saluted on dismounting from his elephant by 15 guns; he proceeded through the city with about 150 horsemen to his own house. I rode through the city shortly after and found it perfectly quiet, though many people were assembled to see the Sirdar's entry.

5th April.—I rode this morning to the village of Hazarnow and directed the houses of the men who had slaughtered cows to be levelled and their property confiscated; the most of them have fled, but five who are prisoners have been sentenced to receive three dozen lashes, one dozen a day for three days, and to be imprisoned six months with hard labour on the roads; this, I trust, will have a salutary effect in putting a stop to this, in the eyes of the Sikhs, serious crime. It is gratifying to know that during all the excitement caused by this, the troops have remained perfectly passive: a short time ago they would have plundered and destroyed the village merely on the report of such an occurrence.

6th April.—Intelligence from Jellalabad is that Ameer Dost Mahomed has arranged the differences with Mahomed Shah Khan, Azeez Khan, and Khoda Buksh Khan, Ghilzies; and that it is expected the road of Cabul will soon be open; he has several Khyber Chiefs with him. The late rains have brought crops well forward.

7th April.—The Governor has released the Attock prisoners, Bahram Khan, son of Ursulla Khan, Meer Khan of Sidoom and his two sons and Meer Afzul Khan, Hotee, and sent them to me; they express themselves our slaves for ever; that had it not been for us they would have lingered till death released them; that for the eleven months of their imprisonment, till I saw them, not a soul had ever enquired after them; that they are men risen from the grave.

8th April 1847.—Had an auction of nuzzur horses and saddles last evening; it was attended by all the Officers Commanding Regiments with Generals Golab Singh and Mehtab Singh. The Vakeel of Ameer Dost Mahomed from Lahore started by the Tartarra road to Jellalabad: thus evincing his fear of trusting himself by the Khyber road though promised escort by some of the Khyber Chiefs.

9th April.—Intelligence has been received of the death at Makoon of Sirdar Rahim Dill Khan, half-brother of Dost Mahamed Khan, on his return from Cabul towards Kandahar; the date is not mentioned. I have been engaged for some days in taking the muster of the Ramgoles, with a view to their Pay Bills being prepared by the Paymasters of the Regular forces. I propose discharging all enlisted in Sirdar Shere Singh's Govenorship and reducing his Native officers, many of whom were promoted on the day of enlistment, doubtless for money received.

10th April.—The Governor received last evening orders from the Durbar relative to the reduction of the Ramgoles; they are much to the effect of those I had proposed to him and will be a saving to the State of a lakh and eighty thousand rupees at least per annum. The Governor continues to find great difficulty in getting contractors to take the farm of many villages. I suggested that they should be offered to respectable zemindars, but the authorities declare the revenue would never be realized through them; they want to force the present contractors to continue their engagements, which of course I will not permit. Sirdar Chuttur Singh, Attariwalla, the young Governor's father, writes me that he cannot yet mount a horse and therefore is unable to join the Government. I replied that it was unnecessary he should do so as I had hopes all would go on well under his son; for my own part I consider the lad less objectionable than the ancient, for the latter would leave all the work in the present hands, and I should have the weight of his years and name to contend with in addition to what is now arrayed against me.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,

Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 12.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 11th, to Saturday, the 17th April 1847.

11th April 1847.—Two sepoys of the Muzby Company stationed at Futtehgurh were attacked last evening within a mile of cantonments; they say by a dozen men. One was shot through the fleshy part of the stomach, the other cut by a sabre through the nose. They came to me and I had their wounds dressed by Mr. Apothecary Thompson; both are doing well. I rode this morning to the village of Chittutny, from where the party are said to have come, and directed the Urbob, Zeereem Khan, to apprehend them. I suspect they belong to some Barowzye Horse who were employed to protect the road hence to Futtehgurh, but were discharged by order of the Durbar a few days since.

This being the festival of *Bysakhee Sungrand*, the Governor sent me a *zeafut* of some sheep, fowls, rice, and atta. A large fair is held by the Hindus at the river beach near the Fort, to which I have sent the Chief Kotwal with a party of police and a company of Ramgoles, to preserve the peace.

12th April.—Talking to Colonel Alla Singh, General Golab Singh's son, of the assault on the two sepoys, he declared that I was too soft and easy-going with the people; that they did not understand anything but hard knocks. I replied that with us that was the last alternative: we tried soft measures first, but could be severe when necessary. I hear this on every side. Avitabile's reign of terror is by the Sikhs greatly lauded: with regard to this, I am happy to observe that of all his gibbets only one now remains.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, as usual, expressed great devotion to us and vaunted of his ability to perform any service we might require from this to Herat. I replied I doubted it not, but that beyond Peshawur he must be aware we required no service: there is a rumour abroad that he expects us to favor his ejecting his brother, the Ameer, from the throne of Cabul: it is not unlikely that this has originated with himself or followers.

The fair of Barrah went off most peaceably.

13th April.—The muster of the Ramgoles continues daily. As characteristic of the state of these troops, I may observe that a detail

of 16 Horse and as many Foot under the denomination of Carabineers appeared this morning when the Chowdry, one of the Governor's ministers, naively remarked:—"Where have these men come from; I have not seen them for nine months?" They are styled the Governor's Orderlies! A lad of fifteen appeared as Governor of the Fort of Barrah. I have suggested that an experienced officer be sent to replace him.

General Golab Singh reports that at the Sikh festival of *Sungrand*, hardly a drunken Sikh soldier was seen in the city, and not a complaint has been made—a most improved and pleasing change from the olden time when such a day never passed without sundry men being wounded or killed in their cups: in this respect the real Khalsas are much like the British soldier, only with less command of themselves in liquor.

14th April 1847.—The Governor's Councillors waited on me yesterday with several contractors and zemindars who were unwilling to renew their leases for this year: hitherto it has been customary to coerce them into it, but I have discountenanced such practice, telling them when they failed by persuasion to bring the parties to me: we succeeded towards evening by a small reduction of revenue in inducing them to renew their contracts.

Two Hindustanee sepoys (evidently deserters from our Army) of Colonel Maun Singh's Regiment passed me last evening as I walked in my own grounds, turning their heads and staring me full in the face in a most insulting manner, without saluting. I sent them to their Colonel to have them taught their duty: he dismissed them without the slightest reproof. I have consequently reported the whole to the General Commanding. This Colonel is quite unfit for his position; is the one complained against as selling promotion, the investigation of which I did not enter into, as the General represented that it would involve officials at Lahore in high stations

15th April.—The General reports that Colonel Dewa Singh, commanding the Khas Dragoons, complained of his beard having been pulled by Ressildar Soudagur Singh; that on investigating the case it appeared both had quarrelled and fought: he had therefore removed the Colonel to the Khas Infantry Regiment, transferring Colonel Kahn Singh, Rosa,

who had originally belonged to it, from the former to the latter, and ordered the Ressildar to be dismissed the service. I expressed my entire approval. Colonel Dewa Singh has served 25 years in the Infantry and is altogether incompetent as a Cavalry Officer, while Colonel Kahn Singh is a very smart, intelligent officer. I have seen both at exercise.

16th April 1847.—Intelligence from Jellalabad is that the Ameer has destroyed the Fort of Buddeeabad in Lughman and given all Mahomed Shah Khan Ghilzie's lands to his enemies, confining his son and brother, Dost Mahomed Khan. Mahomed Shah Khan is said to have fled towards Tagow; his lands have been made over to his enemies, many of whom he had dispossessed of them.

The ex-Governor of Guznee, Gholam Hyder Khan, the late Akbar Khan's full-brother, is to remain as Governor of Jellalabad and the Eastern Ghilzies, on the departure for Cabul of the Ameer, which is expected to be in a few days. The other Ghilzie Chiefs, Azeez Khan, Khoda Buksh Khan, etc., are reported to have made their submission.

17th April.—Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan wants leave to reduce the Adyzyes, a tribe in the hills, distant only ten *coss:* he represents that they never pay revenue till forced by the appearance of troops. I have written them to come in and talk to me, telling them, should they not to do so, the Sirdar will be authorised to take his own measures.

Last night a party of plunderers opened a fire on the Artillery sentries. General Golab Singh himself got up and ordered out two companies after them, but they made themselves scarce: their audacity is great.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 13.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 18th, to Saturday, the 24th April 1847.

18th April 1847.—Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan brought Durreah Khan, Adyzye, to pay his respects. This is the man who recently made

his escape from Umritser, where he had been confined about a year; his Fort was taken and destroyed by Sirdar Tej Singh in 1844-45, himself made prisoner and kept in custody in the Fort of Shameer Ghur till removed to Govind Ghur; his crime is said to have been robbing and plundering on the highway; he has only given himself up on the assurance of personal safety and forgiveness of the past, under promise of future amendment and service, guaranteed by the Barukzye Sirdars.

He is short, stout, and active, but apparently not *over* intelligent; the Sikhs, however, hold him in great terror, he never having rendered allegiance, though he sent in his son in Avitabile's time.

19th April 1847.—I commenced this morning the payment of the discharged Ramgoles; for the most part they are 12 months in arrears; they appeared agreeably surprised at receiving their full amount of pay and left perfectly delighted.

A sepoy of General Mehtab Singh's Regiment was found murdered this morning, not 100 yards from his lines: he was last seen at midnight; was an opium-eater and is supposed to have wandered to where his corpse was found under its influence.

20th April.—The Eusufzye Chiefs are all coming in to pay their respects. Mahomed Khan of Hotee declined going near the Governor till I told him he must; they all appear to be very bitter against the Sikhs, whose system appears to have been to keep them all at enmity with each other and then plunder them indiscriminately.

A treasure party with Rs. 1,25,000 arrived from Lahore yesterday, towards the payment of the troops.

21st April.—Yesterday Sirdar Outar Singh, the Governor, sent to say he wished to call to discuss matters of moment. I replied that I should wait on him in the evening, which I did accompanied by Lieutenant Lumsden. After compliments and the expression of his thankfulness for the kind and considerate manner in which from my arrival I had ever treated him, and the great benefit he had derived from my presence, he begged that I would consider him at all times most anxious to carry out my wishes; that I would ask General Golab Singh to aid him with his counsel and experience; that I would overlook such matters as receipts in excess of revenue that had according to Sikh usage been taken ere I arrived, and in future all such should cease, and more to the same effect.

The General visits him this evening: he naively observed that the only advice he could give the Governor and his ministers was to leave off their old practices and to do nothing without consulting the Sahib. If they would only thus do, all would go right.

Ameer Khan, the head of the Barowzye Horse, lately discharged, who had sent his family and cattle to the hills and is suspected of setting on his men to plunder, fire into cantonments, etc., called at my desire. He refused to come in to the Sirdar and has agreed to get back his family and obey all orders from the Governor, etc.

22nd April 1847.—Dawur Khan, a Mullik of Mashoo Khail, accused of being concerned in sundry outrages, etc., and a defaulter in revenue, having refused to come in on the Governor's summons, I determined to seize him, so sent Lieutenant Lumsden with 200 Horse and 200 Infantry to surprise him: the party arrived at gun-fire at his village, which they surrounded, Lieutenant Lumsden proceeding with the Infantry to his house. As they entered, the clatter of hoofs was heard and Dawur with two followers galloped out of the village, but coming on the Cavalry, they threw themselves off their horses, disencumbered themselves of their arms, which were found, and fled under cover of the fields of standing wheat to the village, where Dawur Khan, disguised as a woman, succeeded in concealing himself. Lieutenant Lumsden, however, secured his son, brother, and nephew with seven Mulliks who aided him in his escape. Lieutenant Lumsden also disarmed 28 of his followers.

Though not successful to the full extent, I am still well content with the result of our *chapaw*, and I doubt not that it will be attended with beneficial results. The people will understand that their misdeeds will be promptly adjudged, that the Government is now powerful to protect as well as to punish. I am happy to add that Lieutenant Lumsden reports that the Sikh Troops behaved most subordinately. Though evidently anxious to punish the Mahomedans, particularly after finding two Sikh shields with balls through them, not an outrage was committed or shot fired.

Intelligence of the recall of the Governor arrived last night. He leaves on the 24th. I have recommended his ministers to settle

their accounts forthwith and to furnish me with a statement of all sums they may have taken from the people in excess of the revenue and admitted rights of the Governor.

23rd April 1847.—I am congratulated on all sides on the successful *chapaw* of yesterday. It is observed that even General Avitabile never dared trust himself in the village of Mashoo Khail, being satisfied with sending the troops to turn and destroy all before them, and that Sirdar Tej Singh would not have ventured on such an expedition with less than some thousand men : the secrecy and celerity of the movement gave the villagers no time to resist, and the disarming each man as he came out of his house was a most happy move.

24th April.—On taking leave last evening I presented the young Governor with a khillut of nine *parchas*; he expressed much gratitude for all the kindness and consideration I have shown him.

The Bukshee gave in his account to the amount of Rs. 42,701 of sums received in excess of revenue as perquisites of the Governor.

We had a heavy storm of rain, thunder and lightning all night. I rode out at gun-fire to escort the ex-Governor some distance, at which he was evidently much pleased. Lieutenant Lumsden accompanied us ; we parted with mutual expression of good-will, compliments, etc.

The General has given him an escort of a Resallah and Company of Ramgoles to Bootah, his paternal domain.

We were well ducked in returning; the whole face of the country is covered with water. No recent intelligence from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 14.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 25th April, to Saturday, the 1st May 1847.

25th April 1847.—Intelligence from Cabul is that the Ameer was expected on the 12th instant; the people there are still in a great state of excitement as to my being here, and will not credit that we have

no design in their quarter; a friend writing to my Moonshee upbraids "for not yet having told him what our real object is"; another writes him "Do let me know when the Sahiban are coming."

General Mehtab Singh, with the skeleton of his regiment (those volunteering for Colonel Kahn Singh's corps remaining) will march on the 4th for Pind Dadun Khan. The General has heard from Lahore that it is the intention of Government to shelve him. Since my arrival I must say he has obeyed all orders and seemingly with alacrity; he is smart and intelligent, but I should think intriguing: his regiment is very steady on parade and a fine body of men.

It has rained all day and night.

The Adyzye Mulliks complain that Sirdar Peer Mahomed wants them to pay fines and penalties in addition to revenue. I have advised that he should excuse them, contenting himself with realizing the legitimate revenue. I have recommended them to come to terms with him, if they cared to preserve themselves and families, as if troops proceed against them they would all be destroyed or ruined.

26th April 1847.—The heavy rain has brought down fifteen houses in the city and portions of the outer-wall: it has cleared up, and I purpose this evening proceeding to inspect the damage done.

About 650 of the Ramgoles have been discharged: of these 450 present have been paid up at an outlay of 34,000 rupees. It is terrible to see how the public money has been squandered; boys of 8, 10, and 12 years receiving from 50 to 100 rupees monthly; Moonshees who would have been well pleased with 15 to 25 drawing more than double and treble: almost all are from 10 to 12 months in arrears.

A report having arrived from Lahore that attempts had been made to stir up the troops here in the cow-killing matter, General Golab Singh brought me a disclaimer signed by all the Generals and Colonels; my own belief is that no such attempt was made.

27th April.—Rode last evening and this morning round and through the city. The damage done has been chiefly caused by neglecting the drainage; since Avitabile left, no attention has been paid to it, the sewers and even arches of the bridges are choked up. I have set men to clean them out.

Several of the Eusufzyes visited me to-day with Urbob Mudjeid Khan; he congratulates himself on our arrival and says that in the matter of feeding sepoys sent to collect revenue which I have put a stop to, he alone saves 500 rupees a year; that our proceedings in regard to the Mushoo Khail malcontents have delighted all the people, who are loud in our praise for the orderly conduct of the troops employed.

28th April 1847.—The volunteering of General Mehtab Singh's Regiment into Colonel Kahn Singh's took place in my presence this morning: each company was asked in a body; about 129 men turned out; more it is said will follow ere the corps marches: it is a very fine-looking regiment.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 22nd instant is that the Ameer arrived on the 19th and was meditating sending Nawab Jubbar Khan to Khoolum to assist the Meer Wallee, who was hard pressed by Zoolfakar Khan and Shoojahoodeen Khan, Chiefs of Surbund and Mazar; the former had surprised a party of 300 of the Wallee's Horse and taken them prisoners, releasing the men but keeping their arms and horses; the road to Meshed and Bokhara was closed consequent on the plunder of 150 camel-loads of merchandise (Russian) proceeding from Persia towards Khiva; and that differences had arisen between Meshed and Persia. A *cossid* from Yar Mahomed of Herat to Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan is said to have been the bearer of this news.

29th April.—Thirty-nine sowars of Sirdar Surjun Singh, Rungur Nungalea, arrived last evening from Lahore, the advance of 500 long since expected; out of them I rejected five horses as unfit for service.

Received a complimentary message from the Deputy Governor of Jellalabad, Meer Akhore Ahmed, who was our civil custodian at Bamian, where the prisoners negociated their escape. He was always most kind and attentive to me, and bears a high character for truth and probity, a singular exception to most of his countrymen; he would not hear of betraying his trust by aiding in our liberation.

Slight showers with sunshine. I fear the volunteering of Mehtab Singh's Regiment will be a failure, no more men having come forward;

they have not been accustomed to have an option, only understand an order; their officers evidently keep them back, otherwise as the men know they are pretty certain to be discharged it would be natural they should prefer remaining in the service: indeed, I think I could see it in their looks; when they march on the 4th I hope more will stay.

30th April 1847.—Rather a sensation amongst the officers has been caused by my pointing out a para. in the *Dehli Gazette* of the 21st instant, in which it is said that General Mehtab Singh deemed it his duty to report to the Durbar that in the time of the great Maharajah cows were never killed at Peshawur, but of late in several villages many had been slain. This coming after signing the disclaimer placed him in an unhappy fix; he, however, positively denies ever having written a word on the subject, and challenges the production, before the Resident, of the letter.

It was reported that, in a village distant 12 *koss*, an affray was on and that two or three men had been killed. I have sent for the leaders.

The Eusufzye Khans have taken leave and started to be ready to meet Lieutenant Lumsden, who I purpose deputing to make a hasty tour through the country to enable me to make some settlement of it. From all I can hear it has been shamefully treated, the people ground to the dust; much is expected from us, and I trust we shall not disappoint them.

1st May.—The payment of the troops commenced yesterday: they are getting four months, *viz.*, from the 3rd December to the 11th April, *Poh, Magh, Phagun, Chait*—the last two include the much-prized batta. Mehtab Singh's Regiment and a company proceeding on escort with Lieutenant Lumsden were paid in my presence, and this morning the right wing of Meer Jung Ali's corps (Mahomedans).

The road from Jellalabad to Cabul is now open to large Kafilas; the Khyber is still closed.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 15.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 2nd, to Saturday, the 8th May 1847.

2nd May 1847.—The leaders of the affray, which in my Diary of the 30th I report having sent for, returned for answer that they had never presented themselves at Peshawur, and never would ; that if I tried to seize them they would fly to the hills ; their village is close under them. I started a party of Afghans under my Moonshee, Hadjie Mahomed, who seeing my anxiety to get them volunteered his services, and I am happy to say succeeded in capturing and bringing in the five survivors, most atrocious looking cut-throats. He reached the village as day dawned, and found all prepared for flight, the bullock-loads lying around their houses. The five men occupied the same house, and at first meditated resistance, but, on the Moonshee assuring them that a large force was in the rear, they gave themselves up ; their arms were brought in. He represents the village as a wretched collection of 40 mud huts, but very difficult of access. I have presented him with a watch, and the party with Rs. 25.

In the evening Dawur Khan of Mashoo Khail gave himself up on my assurance of a fair trial. As he was coming in and close at hand, one of the opposite party fired at him ; he escaped, but the ball grazed the nose of one of his followers. I have confined the man who after firing came to me as if he had done a praiseworthy act. I mention the circumstance as indicative of the state of the country.

3rd May.—Lieutenant Lumsden marched this morning towards Eusufzye, accompanied by Colonel Alla Singh and several of the Khans ; his escort 25 Sikh sowars, 2 companies of Infantry, and Detachment of his Cavalry and Infantry Guides. I accompanied him a short way and in returning inspected the cantonment of Sirdar Suchet Singh, which has suffered considerably from the late rain ; it consists of ten ranges of barracks with native officers' houses in rear. Two ranges on the left flank I have directed to be pulled down to repair the rest, so as to be ready for Ram Sahaie's Regiment, which I intend to locate

here instead of the lines of Mehtab Singh's corps, which are in a hollow, and built most irregularly.

Moollah Nujeeb arrived from Lahore, and called to pay his respects, and present his sunnud for the restoration of his jaghir.

4th May 1847.—Rode this morning to the village of Lallah Kallah, distant six *koss*, accompanied by the Kardar, Durbarra Singh, to see the injury done to the crops by the late inundation of the Barrah from the rain; it must have risen at least from 8 to 10 feet and has done considerable damage, destroying 50 or 60 houses in this village, 14 or 1,600 maunds of grain and much of the standing crop; the village is on the road to Pubbee, from which it is distant five *coss*, and the Barrah here runs in a rapid stream with an immense body of water.

General Mehtab Singh took leave with many professions of devotion to us; he marched with his corps at 11 A.M.

Sirdars Sultan and Peer Mahomed said they had received letters from their brother Sirdar Rahim Dill Khan of Candahar professing himself our servant and well-wisher, and enquiring if there was any objection to his coming to Peshawur to see his brothers. I replied I saw none; that he might come when he liked, as might the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan if he wished; that I would report accordingly to Lahore.

Three Akalees got drunk; one cut down a Ramgole, severely wounding him in the calf. On sending to seize them they at first resisted, but were secured and brought to me. I confined two for some days and the third for three months in irons, first advising with the Generals: one of them had his hand shattered by a gun-shot, when fighting against General Avitabile; from him I took an engagement that he would in future conduct himself with sobriety and order, under pain of expulsion from this district.

5th May.—Shahzadah Mahomed Tyfoor wants me to get his house restored which was confiscated 16 years ago.

Mr. Agnew writes me from Hussan Abdall that he marched for Chuch this day, and Dewan Hakim Raie that he comes in to-morrow, but will encamp at the Shahie Bagh till the 16th, which is an auspicious day for his entering the city. I replied that he might please himself. A slight shock of earthquake at 3 P.M.; weather close and cloudy.

With a view to carry out the Governor-General's views I have told General Golab Singh to announce that any soldiers wishing to remit money to their families may lodge the same in this Treasury, and will receive either from me or the Resident bills for the amount. I have likewise announced that the Durbar will be solicited to annul the present rule which confiscates to the State all the arrears of pay of deceased men, and to substitute the more just and liberal one of awarding it to their families or relatives. The officers say these ameliorations will give universal satisfaction.

I rode through the lines of the 1st Ramgole Regiment last evening to the Colonel's house, who was out; most of the men came out and surrounded me, saluting me in the most respectful manner. I stopped some time talking to them; the late Governor would not have dared to trust himself among them.

A party of a Daffadar and 6 Sowars of the 16th or Liptrott's Irregulars have arrived from Nacodia (*sic*) on seven months' leave; they say they were formerly in Ferris' Jezailchees.

7th May 1847.—Hakim Raie, the new Adalutee, Naib Nazim and Kardar, arrived yesterday, and brought purwannahs from the Durbar to the General, Urbobs, and Ramgoles, and from which it would all but appear that he was the Governor instead of the Naib; he seems smart and intelligent, and professes he is only here to attend to our wishes and orders, and that he looks up to us as he did to the Maharaja.

Bukshee Singh's troop of Horse Artillery from Lahore and Goojrat arrived, also the Golandauze of Colonel Alla Singh under the Adjutant; the Commander Soondhur Singh is said to have taken leave and gone to his home.

The purwannah appointing General Golab Singh Governor arrived this evening much to my joy, as now I expect to be relieved of the onus of the government; the officers of the army assembled in my house and warmly congratulated the new Governor. I took the opportunity to point out that such was the reward of a long course of good service, and to express my hopes that each of them might attain like distinction.

8th May.—The issue of pay to the Regular Army will be concluded on the 12th; they will then be only one month in arrears; it has

been paid in my presence, that is, I in one room and the Paymaster in the next, with the door open between us ; as yet there has not been one complaint. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed has presented me with a horse, and made me promise not to sell him; his value will be carried to Government account.

A sepoy of Ramgoles poisoned himself; he was brought to me in a senseless state. Mr. Thompson applied the stomach-pump, but without avail.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 16.—Political Diary of Major George St. P Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 16th, to Saturday, the 22nd May 1847.

16th May 1847.—I have commenced making a round of visits to the Colonels of Corps, which please them much. I send notice the previous day, and they have their officers to meet me. Nothing can exceed the attention they pay me ; when they lose their reserve they converse freely, and have given me some amusing anecdotes of the late campaign. They all extol the valor of our European Troops, but not so that of our Native. They attribute their own defeat to their want of leaders and their own disorganized state.

17th May.—Called on Colonels Ruttun Singh, Man, and Mehtab Singh, Moraria, who presented me with horses and money ; the former I declined, telling them that the practice of giving presents prevented me from paying as many visits as inclination would otherwise induce ; they promise to make no more, but such was their custom, and they would suffer in public estimation did they not make offerings on my first visit ; this was an appeal there was no resisting.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes me that the state of the Eusufzye country is beyond belief; that he is besieged by thousands of complainants and that such is the fearful state of misrule engendered by Sirdar Sher Singh's system of grinding exactions that it is impossible to say what has really been paid to Government, taken by the Sirdar, plundered by the troops, or made away with by the Khans;

that there is not a single house in the whole district that has not been literally gutted, etc., etc.; that the Khans keep large bands of horse, fed and equipped by the plunder of the people.

18th May 1847.—Intelligence from Cabul of the 10th is that the Asufoodoula has marched from Meshed, and that the Shah of Persia, with an army of 60,000 and 150 guns, has made two marches from Tehran towards Meshed, on hearing which, it is said that Asufoodoula started with 25 horsemen towards the Persian camp: some people say the army is destined for Herat, others Khiva. It is said there is a Sahib at Kokand, and that he gave a draft for 1,000 *tillahs* on a shroff at Cabul, which was returned, the shroff not being forthcoming.

The city of Cabul has suffered considerably from the recent rain; the Ameer has all letters from this quarter taken to him which he reads and gives back. The intelligence letter which was despatched on the 30th ultimo from Cabul to me has not reached.

I dined at General Elahee Buksh's last night; he gave a grand entertainment to 3 or 400; all the officers were present, with General Sirdar Golab Singh. I received a tray of 9 *parchas* and 250 rupees, with a horse; this latter I returned.

In a private letter from Jellalabad to one of my people it was mentioned that matters were not going on well at Cabul, and that the Governor had been sent for; also that the Ghilzie insurrection was but partially suppressed. Called on Colonel John Holmes, who presented me with 226 rupees and a horse. I returned the latter.

I have written Lieutenant Lumsden not to enter too minutely into all the cases of oppression brought before him, but only such as appear to require immediate attention; to tell the others they must bide their time, that all will get a fair hearing; and to try and make the Khans understand that the sooner they dismiss their bands of predatory horse the better; and that any complaints of present oppression will be visited heavily. I have also told him not to press too hard on the Khans, as they only followed the example set them, and that the zemindars must be led to hope more from the future than to expect redress for the past, etc.

20th May.—As indicative of the state of alarm in which the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan is in as to our intention towards Cabul, I may

here observe that the messenger who took my last letter was placed under charge and not allowed to leave the house for the two days he remained or communicate with any one: he was then escorted to Bootkak and told to make the best of his way here. The Resident's letter, which I forwarded with one from myself, was to request that a Commissariat Gomastah, said to be in confinement near Guznee, might be released and sent to me: the Ameer, with many professions, promises compliance.

We had a dust-storm last evening followed by thunder, lightning, and rain which lasted some hours.

A seizure has been made of 111 camels with smuggled salt: in communication with the Governor I have ordered the salt to be lodged in the Government Stores, and the camels to be sold on the public account.

21st May 1847.—General Elahee Buksh, Commanding the Artillery, called to present Commandant Soondhur Singh and Belind Khan, on arrival from Lahore: the Artillery horses ordered long since from the capital have not yet arrived.

Have heard from the Resident that he approves of my suggestion of substituting a national standard for the Khalsa troops and forts in lieu of the present Tri-Color; also that the English exercise and drill should be adopted: when this is done, I can amuse myself with manœuvring the Cavalry Brigade, and also look better after their Infantry evolutions, in which latter Lieutenant Lumsden will assist.

22nd May.—Dined at Colonel Meer Jung Ali's. He was for 15 years in our Infantry; is smart, intelligent and soldierlike, and has a good regiment. General Sirdar Golab Singh and the Colonels Commandant were present. During General Pollock's campaign, he went in command of 300 Sikh Infantry with Colonel Lawrence to Cabul.

My private information from the lines of corps is that the men are all well pleased with the present order of things, and only afraid lest by any misconduct they should lose the service; as long as matters go on well at Lahore, the troops here I think may be depended on. I have called on the General for a statement of the services of each officer, and expressed my intention of reviewing each regiment in the course of the next month.

The new Governor, General Golab Singh, calls on me daily, and will do nothing without consulting me, so that in fact I am the Governor, in all but the name.

I am happy to report that everything is quiet in the Province, and that on all sides the perfect peace which prevails is attributed to the presence of British authorities.

The revenue settlements for the year are nearly completed.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 17.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 23rd, to Saturday, the 29th May 1847.

23rd May 1847.—A general parade of the force, after which the Sirdar, General Golab Singh, called with most of his officers. I am happy to observe that his elevation to the Governorship has in no way diminished his zeal and *esprit de corps*, if I may so style it; as Commander of the forces, he receives the daily reports and attends to the minutest particulars. He and his Deputy Governor, Dewan Hakim Raie, came to me about 6 P.M. yesterday, and were with me till 8, reporting their proceedings in revenue and judicial matters for the last three days.

Two dismounted troops of Artillery arrived from Lahore to complete the Peshawur establishment; they are a rough-and-ready, wild-looking set, apparently under little control. Several are absent without leave, a common custom in the Sikh army: on being ordered to Peshawur or elsewhere they go to their homes for a month or two and then join at their pleasure, affording a fine opportunity for the Paymaster's retrenchments.

24th May.—Mahomed Hossein, vakeel of Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, arrived from Cabul yesterday, and called this morning, bringing letters for the Resident and myself. He produced, by desire of his master, several letters bearing the seal of Syed Mahomed, Pugmaun, better known to us as Jan Fishan Khan, our pensioner residing at Surdhunna, in which,

with much abuse of the Ameer and present Government, he recommends his friends to bide their time; in six months the British would be at Cabul, etc. The Ameer of course disclaims all idea of these letters emanating from us; but deems it as well we should know that such have been sent.

The Governor and Deputy were with me for several hours discussing revenue and judicial matters; the former issued a proclamation against giving and taking bribes.

25th May 1847.—Dined at Colonel Ameer Khan's last evening; he had a guard of honor drawn out, and his band received me with our national anthem; almost all his officers and men are Hindoostanee Mussulmen. The General and other officers were present; the corps is said to be a crack one, and never to have been engaged in any of the outbreaks of the Sikh army. A remount of 80 horses for the Artillery arrived this morning from Lahore with harness complete; one died *en route*; all are in indifferent condition.

Orders have been received for the march of the Khas Dragoons under Colonel Kahn Singh to Lahore, on being relieved by the Churunjeet corps: the regiment would rather remain and be weeded here, but as the Colonel observed, they have now only to obey.

The Cabul vakeel has been questioning my Moonshee as to whether I remain here during the hot weather, and if I go is any other gentleman to come? The Moonshee has heard from one of the vakeel's people that the Ameer's special instructions were to ascertain if the Sahibs were to remain for good at Peshawur: it is clear that our proximity disturbs him.

26th May.—Saw the troops at Brigade exercise this morning; four Infantry, one Cavalry, and troop of Horse Artillery; the Commander of the troops was on the field, but only as a spectator. Colonel Ruttun Singh, Man, commanded and manœuvred much the same as the General; indeed he is a pupil of his.

1st.—The Brigade threw back its right by echelon of companies on No. 8 of the 2nd Regiment.

2nd.—Threw forward the 3rd, retired by double column of companies from the centre.

3rd.—Line to the rear on leading companies.

4th.—Counter-march on centre by files and columns of companies and troops.

5th.—Column *en masse* by the march of files. General salute.

The Cavalry were very wild and seemed to be little attended to. I called on Colonel Maun Singh, Commanding the Poorbea or Hindoostanee Regiment, and sat a couple of hours talking to himself and Soobadars; he is the son of the late General Dhokul Singh, an ex-havildar of ours, who raised this the first regular regiment for the Maharajah; the men are with few exceptions from our provinces and many formerly in our service. Lieutenant Lumsden recognised one who deserted from his own company the night before Sobraon. I at first thought of sending this man to the Resident, but on consideration deemed it would be imprudent and might be productive of bad consequences without any commensurate good.

27th May 1847.—Lieutenant Lumsden, with Colonel Alla Singh, returned from the Eusufzye country this morning: from their account I fear little revenue is to be expected this season from the Khureef crop; whole villages are deserted and the country in a state of desolation. Not a complaint has been made during these 25 days to me against the Sikh escort, whose conduct has been uniformly good.

On my return from yesterday's field day, inspected the two Ramgole regiments which I have embodied from the three after weeding them; they are now a respectable body of men, but require 500 to complete: these I intend to take from the able-bodied fort garrison.

28th May.—A seizure of 100 camels laden with contraband salt has been made near the Kohat district; of late years this contraband trade has flourished to the great detriment of the revenue. To give it a check at once, I have recommended the owners to be fined rupees 2,000, or their camels to be sold on the public account: the zemindars who gave the information which led to the seizure to be liberally rewarded.

The city is full of the rumour of the advance of the Persian army on Herat, and of our Envoy having retired in disgust. Can the arrival of the Cabul vakeel be in any way connected with this? He has gone to Sirdars Sultan and Peer Mahomed in the Doaba, having obtained my sanction.

I am told that some of the Artillerymen recently arrived are mutineers and bad characters. I have ordered an inspection parade of them for to-morrow.

29th May 1847.—Inspected the men of the three corps of Horse Artillery lately arrived, and in front of the whole directed the Artillery General to call upon the officers to point out any disaffected or mutinous characters in order to their being returned to Lahore: any officer withholding information should be held personally responsible; after this * 20 of which are unfit for the service; the Governor was present.

On Monday I hope to finish the second muster and first instalment of pay to the Ramgoles. It is a work of time, as each man is first to be minutely examined and then paid in my presence; if I am called away for an instant, an uproar immediately ensues. With all my care I find last month 17 false names received twelve months' arrears of pay: the original men had long since died or deserted. I have directed the amount to be recovered from the officers and clerks (Duftries).

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 24th is that there has been a fight between the Kuzzelbash and Rekhta Khanees, Sheahs and Soonees, in which 70 men were killed and wounded, several of note among the former. The Ameer sent his sons Gholam Hyder Khan, Mahomed Ameer Khan, and Shere Ali Khan to try and stop it; the two latter joined in the fray on the Soonees' side and themselves wounded two men: the Sheahs were defeated and are said to be longing for revenge.

Reports were rife that Sikh troops were daily arriving here and that the Governor-General with an army had reached Lahore. The Ameer's mind was much disturbed and he was enlisting men. The Khan of Bokhara is reported to have marched three months since towards Shihir-i-Subz; Kafilas from Cabul were delayed at Khoolum in consequence.

The party which conveyed the remains of the late Mahomed Akbar to that city had returned. All is well here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

* Manuscript torn.

No. 18.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 30th May, to Saturday, the 5th June 1847.

30th May 1847.—Transacted no business. The troops were out at a general parade for inspection by the Governor.

31st May.—At a meeting with the Governor and Deputy Governor, Hakim Raie, we carried out the Durbar's orders confiscating 18 out of the 20,000 rupees jagheer enjoyed by Kumurooddeen Khan for the protection of the road. We have told him that until arrangements are completed for the safeguard of the road, he will be answerable for it.

1st June.—Sirdar Sultan Mahomed called on me on his return from the Doaba; he is loud in praise of the arrangements of his brother Sirdar Peer Mahomed, who keeps up two guns and a respectable force of horse and foot on his jagheer, while his other brother Syed Mahomed has hardly a soldier, spending all his substance, no one knows how; he refused to see Sultan Mahomed, or to render any account of the horse and foot he is bound by treaty with the Sikhs to keep up. As the Durbar look to Sultan Mahomed for the due fulfilment, on the part of his brothers, of the terms on which they hold their jagheers, he is naturally desirous of forcing Syed Mahomed to perform his part of it. I have told him he can do as he pleases.

2nd June.—A proclamation was issued by the Governor a few days since to the effect that any one giving or taking bribes would be severely dealt with and the money confiscated; my Moonshee reported that he was offered 100 rupees by the Tusheeldar and door-keeper of the Gor Khuttry, a man named Bhaug Singh, said to have amassed a considerable fortune within the last seven years by levying contributions on all petitioners and others who required access to the Governor.

I told the Moonshee to take the money, and I would make an example of the giver; the money came. I fined Bhaug Singh 200 rupees which I lodged with the 100 previously given in the Government Treasury, and recommended his immediate dismissal from Government employ, which was done.

The Churunjeet Regiment of Cavalry arrived from Lahore; the Khas Regiment march on the 4th.

3rd June 1847.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for three hours inquiring into the jagheers and pensions, which amount in this Province to the enormous sum of Rs. 68,104 per annum.

We have made over the protection of the road hence to Attock to Jaffer Khan, Khuttuckee; from Khairabad to Nowshera and thence to Chumkunnee to Futteh Khan and Nishan Khan. The former is a Jagheerdar to the extent of Rs. 10,000 a year, for which he rendered no service; the two latter have likewise jagheers of Rs. 1,200 per annum; to this we have added Rs. 500 and thus do, for this small sum, what cost the State Rs. 20,000 a year!

The Cabul vakeel took leave yesterday, and started this morning well pleased with his reception; I gave him a *zeaful*, and pair of shawls to the value of 150 rupees.

4th June.—The corpse of a man killed in a village affray yesterday was laid at my door this morning; the parties are prisoners. The subject of dispute arose from a horse straying in the fields, but an old feud existed: the case is under trial.

The Khas Regiment of Cavalry, relieved by the Churunjeet Regiment, marched this morning towards Lahore; they regret leaving. Colonel Kahn Singh, who commands them, is smart and intelligent, and I shall be glad to get him back.

I find some difficulty in getting Artillery Officers to give in the names of their men of bad and turbulent characters. I have told the General that I know there are several and they must be pointed out; they are still afraid of their men.

5th June.—Last evening in discharging some 600 of the Ramgoles two native officers showed an inclination to disturb the peace. I had them seized and taken to the guard, which they had hardly reached when one complained of being ill, lay down and was dead in an instant; the men set up a howl, and symptoms of turbulence arose. Lieutenant Lumsden on one side, and I on the other, shouted to them, and though the body was carried through the middle of them, beyond an occasional wail, nothing occurred. I went on selecting the men to remain and those to go, as if nothing had happened.

I am happy to say they are now down in numerical strength to 2,369.

No recent intelligence from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 19.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 6th, to Saturday, the 12th June 1847.

6th June 1847.—Orders from Lahore received this morning countermanding the march of the Khas Dragoons: fortunately I had halted them about six miles off anticipating this, having heard from the Resident that it was in contemplation.

On arrival at Peshawur, I found all the parades under cultivation up to, and even between, the men's lines. This I at once put a stop to; each officer and man had his little field, and, of course, the water was taken from the zemindars.

Between the Artillery and one of Colonel Holmes' Regiments the ground formerly allotted for exercise had been appropriated to himself by a Fakeer, who had built a house, garden, tank and well; the two latter, with the house, I permitted him to retain, but directed the wall of the garden to be removed and the ground to be resumed for its original purpose; this has lately been done. This morning I heard that the Fakeer had been freely censuring the General for his tamely agreeing to my suggestions, and talking to the Sikh soldiers in an inflammatory way. I have therefore directed the General to send a Naik and six to seize and convey him across the Attock as a dangerous person to have among the men.

The Jagheerdar Horse, said to be 1,500, under Sirdar Kahn Singh, have arrived within four miles of the city. I take their muster to-morrow with that of the Churunjeet Regiment of Cavalry.

7th June.—Inspected the Jagheerdar Horse, now said to be 1,000 under Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, and allotted them ground for a

cantonment. Orders arrived for the Churunjeet Regiment of Cavalry to march to Hazarah.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed urges the expediency of compelling his brother, Syed Mahomed, to keep up his quota of horse and foot and to pay attention to the affairs of his Jagheer.

With Dewan Hakim Raie I examined the various purwannahs for religious grants, which occupied us some hours. I have had all the liquor shops concentrated in one house in the city, over which I have put a guard to prevent affrays, and to disarm all soldiers drinking to excess. The General has done the same by the various grog-shops in the lines.

8th June 1847.—Hearing that there was an assemblage of Afreedees near Adyzye, bent on plundering the villages in their neighbourhood, I sent my Chupper Bashee, and some of the Guide Corps to ascertain its truth; finding it was correct I have ordered a small party of Afreedee Horse out to watch their movements and send early intimation.

I have at length got the names of ten of the Artillery disaffected and bad characters from General Elahee Buksh; and it is deserving of notice that some of them were ringleaders in turning the General himself out of his command during the reign of terror! I have directed them to be paid up and sent across the Attock forthwith.

9th June.—Several affrays having recently taken place in the villages around, the Governor is anxious to put a stop to them, and has therefore sentenced two men to be hung to-morrow, convicted of killing another. I wished to submit the case for the Durbar's orders, but as they represent that an immediate example is necessary I have consented to their execution and trust it may have the desired effect.

In conjunction with the General, leave of absence to the extent of a fourth of the troops has been granted; all proceeding on leave are warned to return punctually, to proceed together, and to be careful to commit no misdemeanour or outrage *en route* under penalty of forfeiture of future indulgence, loss of service, etc.; strict attention to be paid to seniority of claim, the corps that have been on leave not now to participate.

10th June 1847.—I regret to say two more men were murdered last night by a party of nine, three of whom I have apprehended and am now trying: the cause a woman, sister of one of the murderers.

The extreme penalty of the law was carried into effect this morning on the two convicted of murder: it being the second execution since Avitabile's departure created a great sensation, and an immense crowd were present.

I had all the heads of the police with two companies of Ramgoles in attendance; and all went on well and orderly. I have directed the bodies to remain for some days, and have had the crime and sentence proclaimed throughout the city and neighbouring villages.

11th June.—Took the muster of 280 Ghorechurras, good looking men, but indifferently mounted; the remainder are to be seen to-morrow.

The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours to-day; they appear to work better together. We have sent for all the Eusufzye Khans to try and make a settlement of their disputes and revenue.

A Hindostanee Ramgole cut a prostitute down in the city and then killed himself; the unfortunate woman can't live.

12th June.—Two of the nine men concerned in the murder on the evening of the 9th have been convicted and sentenced to be hung this evening and five more to be imprisoned with hard labour for five years; the other two have not yet been apprehended.

Under instructions from the Resident Lieutenant Lumsden starts for Hussun Abdall on the 15th instant to be employed in that quarter for the next month; most men would growl and grumble at being detached in such weather, and therefore the wish was merely expressed that he was there: his zeal, however, outweighed all personal considerations, and he would have started on the instant had I let him. Mustered the remainder of the Ghorechurras 474, so that instead of 1,000 as reported their strength is 754, quite enough; they do not look the sort to get work out of.

The execution went off quietly, and I am told by the Urbobs, etc., that it's so quickly following the crime will have a most beneficial effect.

No recent authentic intelligence from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 20.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 13th, to Saturday, the 19th June 1847.

13th June 1847.—Nothing worth recording: at the request of the General, the usual Grand Parade was excused, this being a festival day.

14th June.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours transacting business.

An elephant, fully caparisoned, arrived from the Durbar for my use.

Attended a Grand Durbar at the Governor's, at which I presented him with his Khillut of investiture as Sirdar, and took the opportunity of expressing my gratification at such an honor having devolved on me, and reiterated my hope that the officers present, by following the example of Sirdar Golab Singh, might be thus rewarded; the Sirdar had every Officer down to the junior Jamadar and many Privates to dinner, of which 1,400 partook; illumination, fire-works and *nautching* concluded the joyous day.

15th June.—I was to have taken the muster of the Khas Dragoons this morning, but at the request of the officers postponed it till to-morrow to admit of their enjoying the Governor's hospitality to the full; the same cause delayed Lieutenant Lumsden's departure for Chuch, which was fixed for this day.

Ram Sahaie's regiment of Infantry has crossed the Attock in progress from Pind Dadun Khan to this.

16th June.—Took the muster of the Khas Dragoons, and selected 82 of all ranks, bad characters and unfits, and have ordered them to Lahore.

Transacted revenue and judicial matters with the Governor and Deputy. Lieutenant Lumsden started for Hussun Abdall, by order of the Resident, to remain in that neighbourhood till the arrival of Lieutenant Nicholson; he overtakes his camp at Nowshera.

17th June.—At my weekly Durbar, the Urbobs and others congratulated me on the prospect there now was of the constant village

affrays being at an end; that hitherto the people thought I would only imprison; they had now found out their mistake. I trust they are right, though I have my doubts.

I have had the bodies of the men executed interred beneath the gallows.

A Persian letter mentions the escape of Lieutenant Lumsden from drowning; he had put a charpoy, or native bed, on inflated skins in the Cabul river at Dobundee, intending to float down to Nowshera, and had gone some miles, when the skins burst and he with his attendant was immersed in the water, from which with difficulty he was extricated, losing his sword, pistol and clothes.

18th June 1847.—Mustered the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Khas Dragoons (dismounted), and reduced seven Jamadars, five Havildars and six Naiks in excess to the establishment.

I regret to say that a report from Khuttuk has just reached of a village affray, in which one man has been killed and seven wounded, the cause—non-fulfilment of a marriage contract; the parties engaged have absconded, but I hope to catch them.

19th June.—Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh's regiment of Infantry marched into cantonments this morning, said to be 700 strong; he with all his officers waited on me this morning. This is one of the corps of General Sirdar Golab Singh's old Brigade which accompanied him to Cabul.

Took the muster of 44 Ghorechurras, under Bhookum Khan.

A letter from Lieutenant Lumsden confirms the Persian report of his narrow escape. I am happy to add he is not the worse for this ducking.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 21.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 20th, to Saturday, the 26th June 1847.

20th June 1847.—The usual General Parades of troops. I intend to propose that this parade should be ordered for Mondays in future, as then I can attend, whereas now I do not.

In consequence of the great heat I have recommended the discontinuance of all parades for exercise at present, and drills only to be out in the morning; the men are of course highly pleased.

21st June 1847.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy; examined into several religious grants, etc.; had all the Eusufzye Khans and many Mulliks to pay their respects.

Mustered Ghorechurras and inspected 72 recruits (Infantry) arrived from Lahore; posted them to Colonel Meer Jung Ali's regiment.

To the great delight of the Ramgoles I have granted them leave of absence to the extent of one-fifth, officers, non-commissioned and men; this is the first indulgence of the kind they had ever had.

22nd June.—Intelligence from Cabul up to the 15th instant is that the Ghilzies of the Babaka Khael (Mahomed Shah Khan's) had plundered some travellers near Seh Baba and that the Ameer had sent a thousand men with two guns on elephants, who attacked them, took their Fort of Gogomundee, and gave it with the plunder for 2,000 rupees to their enemies. On the 9th it was reported to the Ameer that Sirdar Sultan Jan, and Mahomed Afzal Khan, son of Shabohdeen, Tookhee, had plundered a Kafila and killed some of the people near Khilat-i-Ghilzie, the Tookhees and Huzaras aiding them.

The Ameer is said to have received some letters from the Urbobs of Peshawur and Durreah Khan, Adyzyie. An *Elchee* from the Meer Wallee of Khoolum arrived at Cabul on the 14th instant.

Mirza Hoosain reached on the 11th. The Ameer appeared well pleased with the result of his mission; he brought a letter from Sirdar Sultan Mahomed saying that if the Ameer wished to be on good terms with us and that his affairs should prosper, he ought to send a vakeel on whom he could depend to remain with me; that Mirza Hoosain was not the man. The Ameer proposed to Nawab Jubbar Khan to go, but he declined: it was thought that Mirza Abdool Samee Khan would be sent.

It was reported at Cabul that the Khan of Khiva hearing that the King of Bokhara had marched towards Shihir-i-Subz had made a *chapaw* to within 30 miles of Bokhara, and returned with many thousand captives. The King on hearing this returned and killed with his own hand Naib Abdool Summund Khan by striking him on the head with a hatchet; his family and property were made over to the Vuzeer.

23rd June 1847.—Rode through the city at gunfire this morning to arrange a new disposition of the sentries: the guards have hitherto been posted in small details of six men; these I have concentrated in parties of 18 and 24, who will furnish sentries for their several posts, but be available as a body if required.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy in the affairs of the Eusufzyes which are most difficult to arrange; they are in such a state of anarchy and bad blood with each other.

Another affray has just been reported to have occurred in the village of Mashoo Khail in which six men were wounded ; I have called on the Urbob, Mahomed Khan, to seize and bring in all the parties.

24th June.—A treasure party with two lakhs of rupees arrived from Lahore: three were expected; the third is said to be *en route* but I doubt it.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes me from Hussun Abdall that there is nothing stirring there; a murder had been committed on a grass-cutter which was set down to the Gundghurrias, but he very much suspected unjustly; more likely to have been the act of some of his companions. He informs me that the Churunjeet Regiment of Cavalry had halted, the Colonel said for pay. I have ordered them off instantly to Huzarah and expressed my surprise at the delay they have made in what they know to be the Durbar's instructions. I have directed Lieutenant Lumsden to look after any troops in his vicinity, and to act in every respect as I do here till he receives the orders of the Resident.

25th June.—One of my purwannahs to send in a woman who had been forcibly carried off having been returned to me by the Mullick of Mashoo Gugger with his reply that he "had never attended to Avitabile, why should he to me?," at 10 P.M. I quietly started 300 Cavalry and 600 Infantry under Colonels Alla and Mehtab Singh and by daybreak surrounded the village and seized the gentleman.

I had purposed going myself, but the Governor came up in the middle of the night and so strongly urged me not, that I complied. 18 or 20 swords and loaded matchlocks were brought in, which I have confiscated. The Sikh troops, the Colonels report, as did my people whom I sent with them, conducted themselves most orderly.

26th June 1847.—Lieutenant Lumsden reports that the Churunjeet Regiment of Cavalry were to march from Hussun Abdall this morning for Huzara. Colonel Boodh Singh's Regiment of Infantry had arrived. All is quiet in this quarter.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 22.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 27th June, to Saturday, the 3rd July 1847.

27th June 1847.—The Officer Commanding 12th Native Infantry writes the Assistant Resident at Lahore to have a deserter from his regiment, said to be in Colonel Dhokul Singh's, seized and sent to the Provinces; this appearing an irregular and novel proceeding I have referred it for the Resident's orders, and intend taking no steps in the matter till I hear from him.

28th June.—Sirdar Sultan Mahomed sent for my Moonshee and gave him letters he had received from Ameer Dost Mahomed, with one to my address. Copies will be sent to the Resident, though they contain little of moment.

I rode over the Parade ground, which I am having put in order, it requiring levelling, draining, etc.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy; have at length settled with the Eusufzye Khans, who took leave this morning, promising to cease from oppressing their people, and to live in peace with each other. I have promised to reward those who have their lands in the best order on my visiting them in October.

29th June.—A lad of 18 or 20 of the village of Dulozie cut his uncle in two while lying asleep on his bed; he acknowledges it, and says his uncle owed him money and in lieu of payment promised to give him his daughter in marriage. He gave her to another, and therefore he killed him.

Mustered the remainder of the Ghorechurras with the Zamboor battery of 51 guns; all the camels are knocked up. I purpose sending

them to graze and posting the men with the Zamboors in the different forts.

Dewan Atma Singh, Vuzeer of Khoolum, who paid the late Sir W. Macnaghten a visit of some months at Cabul, writes me by name George Lawrence, as if he knew me well, and professes much service: his letter arrived under cover to a banker in the city. I shall answer him by the same channel.

30th June 1847.—Rode through the city, which, notwithstanding the heat, appears crowded: fruit selling in great profusion.

Inspected Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh's regiment, about 740 firelocks. The men are a stout soldierlike set, but the officers no great things; all want much drill, which I have recommended their getting when the weather admits.

1st July.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy.

The lad who murdered his uncle was executed this morning during the time the Urbobs were with me. I took the opportunity of warning them to exert themselves to put a stop to affrays and to report instantly; they appear to look but lightly on them, and I am pretty sure do not exert themselves as they ought.

2nd July.—Nil.

3rd July.—Commenced paying the troops for the months of *Baisakh* and *Jaith*, or from 12th April to 9th June. The three troops of Artillery which arrived last month are six and eight months in arrears, and Ram Sahaie's regiment four months. They will be paid up so as to be on a par with the rest of the force.

Report of a man being shot in the village of Budwair yesterday, but his father declares it was accidental; the case is under investigation.

No intelligence from the west.

P. S.—3rd July.—As I was about to close my Diary intelligence from Cabul up to the 27th ultimo arrived; Sirdar Sooltan Jan had arrived with his brother Mahomed Omer Khan on the 23rd.

The Ameer was engaged in reducing the pay and number of troops employed by the late Sirdar Akber Khan, etc. The intelligence of Naib Abdool Summund Khan's death by the hand of the King of

Bokhara is confirmed. His Majesty is also said to have dismissed the Persian *Elchee* who had some time previously arrived from Meshed; nothing else worthy of notice.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 23.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 4th, to Saturday, the 10th July 1847.

4th July 1847.—Rode to the cantonment called Rajah Suchet Singh's on the east of the city, where I have located Colonel Ram Sahaie's regiment. Within gunshot of it, on the highroad to Lahore, are cantoned two troops of Horse Artillery, the Khas Dragoons and Khas Regiment of Infantry; on the west of the city, in the Ali Murdan cantonment, are the regiments of Meer Jung Ali, Ruttun Singh, Mehtab Singh, Maun Singh, and Ameer Khan and Sobhan Khan, with four troops of Horse Artillery, two on each flank; the rear is occupied by the Aukhalee Regiment of Dragoons and Ghorechurras under Sirdar Kahn Singh.

5th July.—Paid three troops of Horse Artillery four and six months' arrears.

Engaged for three hours with the Governor and Deputy in giving fresh purwannahs and enquiring into religious grants, jagheers, etc.

I have ascertained that an extensive system of kidnapping women and girls and selling them to brothel keepers and others has long prevailed in this Province; some engaged in it I have seized, and hope to put a stop to such nefarious proceedings. I have imprisoned three notorious offenders.

6th July.—I have succeeded in getting three women and one child who were found locked up, waiting purchasers. Two represent themselves to have been seized and brought from Kooner, one from Eusufzye; the child appears to know nothing about its parents or place of abode: one woman I have made over to her friends.

7th July 1847.—Phuggoo Singh, Adjutant of Meer Jung Ali's regiment, brought me a purwannah from the Durbar in reply to his application to be made a Commandant; they, as they have done in many late cases, throw the onus of refusal on me by telling him that I may appoint him if I like. I told him as reductions were the order of the day, it would not do to make new promotions.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan in his late visit went over the old ground of his great anxiety to do some signal service which would prove to us that he was sincere. "God forbid," said he, "that you should be put in any strait, but if it was so, then you would see the value of my gratitude and friendship."

8th July.—Engaged with the Governor and Deputy in judicial and revenue suits.

Had my weekly Durbar of the Urbobs and gentry.

Shahzadah Hashum, son of the late Timour Shah, and grandson of Ahmed Shah, a pensioner of the Sikhs and resident in the city, has disinherited his sons, Shahzadah Mahomed Saleh and Shahzadah Abdool Wahab; their allowances he has discontinued, and they now are driven to live on charity. Urbob Mahomed Ameer Khan has given them present shelter and subsistence; they are worthless characters.

9th July.—I have suggested to the General to call for a return of guards and orderlies furnished by regiments with a view to some orders being issued to reduce their numbers and introduce uniformity; at present Commanding Officers appear to please themselves very much in these matters.

The Ghorechurras are to receive four months out of 12 months pay due them. I have directed its being paid at my quarters, the same as that of the Regulars; they have their separate Paymasters: the disbursement will commence on Monday, the 12th instant.

10th July.—Nothing of moment; a slight attack of fever prevented my seeing the Governor and Deputy, notice of which I sent them last night.

Geo. St. P. LAWRENCE, Major,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 24.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 11th, to Saturday, the 17th July 1847.

11th July 1847.—It was reported by the Cutwall that consequent on the escape of a prostitute, Ram Dass, Commandant, ex-Colonel of the 2nd Ramgole Regiment, took upon himself to order the gates of the city to be closed till after sunrise; that some females of the Barukzye Sirdars going to Hushtnuggur were turned back from one of the gates because they would not show their faces. I have requested the Governor to make strict enquiry into the matter.

12th July.—Intelligence from Cabul to the 6th instant is that the Ameer had at length settled the differences between the Morad Khanees and Rekhtas and put the former under his son Akram Khan, the latter under Gholam Hyder Khan; Azeez Khan Ghilzie had arrived at Cabul; Mahomed Shah Khan had occupied the old fort of Kaffer Killa, near Seh Baba and Sarobee, and made up with different chiefs in the neighbourhood with whom he had previously been at issue. The Ameer had executed Dilawer Khan, son of Abdoolah Khan, Sahag, much to the annoyance of Gholam Hyder Khan; some Ghilzies were at the same time put to death; and had confined the son of Meer Derwesh Baba, Khoosh Khanee, getting him on the pretext of enquiring into some complaints of theft. In open day bands of 30 and 40 Kohistanees plunder right and left.

13th July.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy yesterday.

Was to have dined at Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh's, who had made great preparations,—fire-works, etc.,—but an attack of fever prevented me; the Governor and all the officers went.

Have been obliged to put myself under medical treatment.

Have, since my arrival, had much trouble in getting the Cazee to attend to his duties; he has sent many cases back to me without having made any enquiry into them, and some which he had settled were so obviously unjust and opposed to reason, that I assembled several learned in the law (Mahomedan) and reversed his decrees. I have consequently determined on removing him.

14th July 1847.—Ram Dass, ex-Colonel, present Commandant of the 2nd Ramgole Regiment, took upon himself to order the gates of the city to be kept closed till after sunrise, consequent on the elopement of a nautch girl. After due enquiry into the case, I have fined him Rs. 300. It might have led to an affray, as some of the Barukzye Sirdars' females going to Hushtnuggur were stopped at the gates and called upon to show their faces; fortunately their escort did not resent the affront, but reported it to me.

Dawur Khan, of Mashoo Khail, *chapawed* by Lieutenant Lumsden on the 22nd April, sent me in 20 head of cattle which he had recovered from a band of plunderers who were driving them to the hills.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy.

15th July.—Weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry; all tell me that in the best of Avitabile's days the country was never so quiet as it is now, or so free from casualties and offences.

The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed proceeded to Hushtnuggur on a visit of condolence to his brother, Sirdar Peer Mahomed, on the death of one of his wives.

16th July.—Reports from Cabul of the plunder of a Kafila bound for Peshawur by the Ghilzies near Tezeen.

Lieutenant Lumsden has reported being relieved at Hussun Abdall by Lieutenant Nicholson. On returning I have directed him to collect all the information he can of the Khuttuk district and its management under Ram Dass and his brother, Lalla Hakim Raie.

The payment of the Regulars and Ghorechurras proceeds under my supervision.

17th July.—The parties engaged in the affray of the village Bahadoor, for which two men were executed, came to me yesterday, and requested I would send and take their arms, so as effectually to prevent a recurrence of it. I sent off a party who brought in 11 swords and 8 matchlocks.

I regret to say the Governor is laid up. I have recommended his keeping quiet for some days.

I have removed the Cazee and appointed Fuzel Ahmed, one of the sons of Cazee Mahomed, Hussun Khanee, Moollah of the late Shah Timour and Shah Shoojah-ool-Moolk. He officiated for six months as Cazee at Cabul and was well thought of by the people, while his brother, who succeeded him as being his senior, was just the reverse.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan returned this morning from Hushtnuggur.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 25.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 18th, to Saturday, the 24th July 1847.

18th July 1847.—Paid the Governor an evening visit, to enquire after his health. I am happy to say he is better, but a good deal reduced; he said he would be with me to-morrow, but I advised his keeping quiet for some days.

19th July.—Transacted business with the Deputy Governor and paid the Khas Pultun and 80 Ghorechurras.

On enquiring into the reported execution at Hushtnuggur it turns out that a thief was cut down in the act of plunder and dying of his wounds the Sirdar's son had the body hung up for a day; seven witnesses tell the same story, so I have told the young Sirdar he may return to his father's jagheer.

20th July.—Requested the General to order a court-martial to assemble at my quarters to investigate the conduct of the Adjutant of Colonel Ram Sahaie's Regiment, reported to have been most insubordinate; it appears to have arisen from a soldier's wife (the Adjutant's orderly) complaining to the Colonel of the Adjutant having struck her.

Rode over the new exercising ground which I have had made in front of the men's lines in the Ali Murdan Cantonment.

21st July.—Held the court-martial at my quarters on Torab Ali, Adjutant of Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh's Regiment, accused of

grossly abusing his Commanding Officer; the court consisted of Colonels John Holmes, Mehtab Singh, Kahn Singh, Meer Jung Ali, and Maun Singh. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to suspension from rank and pay for two months: the court wound up their proceedings by requesting I would give them Articles of War for their guidance and promulgation among the men.

The Governor with all the officers paid their respects; the old man is better, but much pulled down; the weather has become cooler, which is in his favor.

An affray is reported to have occurred at Hushtnuggur in which three or four men were wounded. I have called on the Barukzye Sirdars in whose jagheer it is to send the parties in.

22nd July 1847.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy. The latter urged me to write to the Resident on behalf of his son, Dewan Kishen Cower, ex-Kardar of Rawul Pindee; I replied that I had already done so, but as no reply had been vouchsafed the subject was evidently not agreeable.

Held my weekly Durbar of the Urbobs, at which there was much discussion as to their not only not assisting Government in suppressing the salt contraband trade, but that by many they were accused of aiding and benefiting by it. I warned them that if proved they might rely on losing their jagheers.

23rd July—Some villagers complained of the sepoys of the Khas Pultun cutting off the water from their fields. I sent the parties to the General to have the case investigated, with instructions to punish the men if guilty.

To show the difficulty of ascertaining who are deserters from our army, I may mention that in the recent issue of pay to the Dhokul Singh, or Poorbeah Pultun, I took down the name, without their being aware of it, of each man who struck me from his appearance as having been one of our sepoys, and I find by my list I have 90 down, not one of whom, I am quite sure, is under his proper name; all have borrowed names, and many of them, I have no doubt, have been discharged for different offences. I also got their long roll to examine; few have put down their villages or purgunnahs, but chiefly large cities as Lucknow, Bareilly, Cawnpore, etc.

24th July 1847.—Sirdar Peer Mahomed sent in a man suspected of having wounded another. I enquired into the case, but there being no proof dismissed it. I mention it to show that the recent orders of the Durbar to send in all such cases are now attended to.

A disturbance arose in the city which, if the parties had not been promptly seized, might have led to serious results: a Hindoo and Mahomedan quarrelling set to abusing each other's religion and a crowd was attracted and sides taken; the Police however interfered and took them to the Governor, who sent them to me. I imprisoned the principals, first having them well flogged, and fined all the rest.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 26.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 25th, to Saturday, the 31st July 1847.

25th July 1847.—The Governor, General Golab Singh, paid me a friendly visit before breakfast this morning, and sat for an hour-and-a-half; we complimented each other on the improved state of the Province.

I have directed Sirdar Kahn Singh to order out every morning 80 or 100 of his Ghorechurras to make an 8 or 10 mile circuit of the country with a view to show the people we are on the alert, as also to give the horsemen a knowledge of the country.

26th July.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy: they arrived at 7, and were with me till half past 10 A.M.

Some petitions having been lodged by Ramgole sepoys complaining that Colonel Dhun Raj had issued orders putting them to unnecessary expense by changing their dress, etc., I requested the General to investigate the matter. He reports the complaints to be false, and to have been made at the instigation of ex-Colonel and Commandant Ram Dass, through the medium of a Naik of the 2nd Regiment, whom I have ordered to be discharged forthwith.

Several Bunneahs have been detected mixing Indian corn with atta, and have been fined.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed sent to say he purposed calling to-morrow.

27th July 1847.—Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, after mutual compliments, asked for a private interview; he was attended by Naib Mahomed Shereef, our pensioner; I had my Moonshee. To my astonishment all at once he told the Naib to produce the Koran, which he had under his cloak, and ere I could say a word he put out his hand on the book and swore most solemnly that his whole and sole aim was to retain our good opinion and prove his gratitude at being restored to his home; that his brother the Ameer was his bitter enemy, and much more to the same purpose. He said that Sirdar Sultan Jan had written from Cabul that he was at his service for any work, and was ready to join him at Peshawur; he asked should he tell him to do so. I replied "by no means." My Moonshee says his object in making this solemn declaration is that, as he has many enemies at Lahore, he fears their representations may injure him in our estimation. I directed the Moonshee to take notes of the meeting.

This is the first morning I have had to myself for three months, and I enjoyed it very much: what with settling the affairs of the Ramgoles and paying the Regulars, I have been engaged every morning from daybreak.

28th July.—A good fall of rain last night; will give us cool weather for the next week. This being the Mahomedan festival of *Shub-i-berat*, I had no kutcherry, the first holiday my establishment have had.

An order has arrived from Sirdar Tej Singh recalling Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh of the Artillery, reported by me to the Resident for making false returns. As the General considers the Commandant, Adjudhia Pershaud, equally implicated, I have requested he be sent also with the Major and Moonshees.

29th July.—An order recalling the Deputy Governor, Dewan Hakim Raie, arrived last evening. I have assented to the Governor's

proposition to allow him to remain pending a reference to the Resident and Durbar. His recall has been caused by his (in a letter he wrote me some time ago) styling himself Governor, etc.

The recall of Colonel Bukshie Singh has alarmed the Artillery Commandants. It was reported last evening that several hundred maunds of grain and *bhoosa* which ought to have been given to the Government cattle had not. They now wished to know what was to be done with it ; I have ordered it to be carried to the account of Government, and told the General to explain that in future any curtailing of the food of the cattle, or appropriation of Government property, will not be passed over, and that I shall hold the Colonels responsible.

30th July 1847.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for three hours. I have directed the latter to continue his duties till further orders. He is very much downcast at his recall; it will do him good and frighten others.

Rode through the city last evening and was joined by Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, whom I accompanied to his house, and sat with him some time. He showed me some 50 or 60 English and French mirrors he had brought from Lahore, with chandeliers, wall shades, etc., to the value of a lakh of rupees; he is building extensively at the Wuzeeree Bagh.

31st July.—Lieutenant Lumsden arrived this morning, looking all the better for his trip.

In my grounds is an extensive tank in which I have allowed the Sikh troops to bathe, much to their enjoyment; it requiring clearing out, this morning 500 or 600 of the men of their own accord came and in half an hour cleared it, appearing to enjoy the fun.

I have just heard of an engagement having taken place three days since in the Khyber between two clans; several wounded and killed on both sides.

We are going to pay the Governor a visit this evening; I am happy to say he is quite recovered. All well in this quarter.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 27.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 1st, to Saturday, the 7th August 1847.

1st August 1847.—I find I omitted in my last week's Diary to notice the arrival on the———of a treasure party with 1,14,000 rupees from Lahore.

The Governor and Deputy started early this morning to inspect the forts of Jumrood and Barrah.

2nd August.—A grand parade this morning of all the troops, regular and irregular: marched past in review in open column of troops and companies, about 2,000 Cavalry, 500 Artillery and 5,000 Infantry. The men were very steady and looked remarkably well.

Transacted business with Governor and Deputy; they seem to have enjoyed their visit to the forts yesterday, which they report as requiring petty repairs. Lieutenant Lumsden astonished the officers by showing them some gun-cotton and its effects: he made a paper cannon from which he fired some shots to their great surprise and amusement. They wanted to present *nuzzurs* on his escape from drowning, but I told them it was unnecessary; their congratulations were sufficient.

My special messenger, deputed on the 30th with a purwannah to the Mulliks of Nowdeh and Kulloo in the Eusufzyes (*sic*), has returned with a positive refusal from them to obey it: they say they will only pay revenue as they please; I may send troops against them or do what I like. They are close to the hills, and think they are safe; I hope ere long to show them their mistake.

3rd August.—Intelligence from Cabul up to the 27th ultimo is that Gholam Hyder Khan has been appointed Vuzeer, and his half brother, Sirdar Sher Alie Khan, Governor of Guznee: Meer Durwesh Khan Baba, Khoosh Khanee, had been released from confinement on paying a fine of 5,000 rupees. The country was in its usual disturbed state.

Sirdar Kahn Singh has been laid up for some time and yesterday was dangerously ill. I offered Mr. Thompson's services, and with Lieutenant Lumsden paid him a visit: glad to find him much better. I sent him some rhubarb *shurbet* from Cabul, which is highly esteemed.

4th August.—A fire broke out in one of the bazars, but was quickly put out without doing much damage.

5th August.—Transacted business with the Deputy Governor.

Sent Mr. Apothecary Thompson to attend on the Governor, who is reported dangerously ill.

At about 9 A.M. the powder manufactory in the city blew up, completely destroyed 34 houses, one of which was the mint, and part of the city wall; 8 people were killed on the spot, 5 died shortly after, and 34 were more or less wounded, one man was killed herding cows a quarter of a mile outside the city by a brick falling on him; many houses in the city were shaken. I sent Lieutenant Lumsden with all the beldars to the spot; they succeeded in rescuing one man who was completely buried in the ruins, but uninjured. The police were very active and useful keeping the crowd, which was immense, from the ruins. Lieutenant Lumsden praises them much. I have directed the wounded to be sent to my hospital. In the evening I repaired to the scene, which was distressing to view.

6th August 1847.—Mr. Thompson remains in attendance on the Governor; the Hakeems were killing him fast by giving him cold applications instead of hot. I sat with him some time this morning.

Held my usual weekly Durbar of all the Urbobs yesterday.

7th August.—Visited the Governor this morning; he had a good night, and is now, I trust, out of danger; he will not part with Mr. Thompson, whose attention and skill he justly appreciates.

A man from Khuttuck for the murder of his wife was executed this morning. He suspected his wife of infidelity, but without taking her to task, or the least proof or enquiry, cut her to pieces. I have had his crime and sentence proclaimed through the city.

In Cabul there are three Armenian families, of twelve members. One of the Ameer's sons hearing of the beauty of one of the girls sent to the father for her; on his refusing on the plea of their difference of religion, the young Sirdar sent to say he would take her by force. Some friends of the family have asked me to write to the Ameer, and sounded me as to whether I would give the girl shelter and protection should they be able to bring her to Peshawur. I regret not deeming myself at liberty to reply.

I have told Major Lawrence that there can be no objection to give such persons protection when once across the frontier.

H. M. LAWRENCE,
Agent to G.-G.

LAHORE:
August 16th, 1847.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 28.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 8th, to Saturday, the 14th August 1847.

8th August 1847.—We visited the Governor this morning, and I am happy to say he is progressing famously; he will hardly admit one of the Hakeems into his presence, while he scarcely lets Mr. Thompson out of his sight.

9th August.—Transacted business with the Deputy Governor. I have ordered trees to be planted throughout the Province, each Jagheerdar and pensioner to plant and take care of a number according to the extent of jagheer or amount of pension in land; at present hardly a tree is to be seen.

The troops paraded under their Commandants on their respective parades.

I have granted two months' leave to Colonel Dhun Raj, Commandant, Ramgoles, a young man, but most respectable, active and intelligent officer; and one month's leave to Dewan Jowallah Sahaie, Killadar of the Fort of Jumrood.

10th August.—I refused to receive Mahomed Shah Khan Ghilzie's Agent, who brought his master's letter, and desired that merely a receipt should be given for it. His impudence in addressing me and styling himself the friend of the English beats anything I ever heard.

He was the instigator of the murder of the Envoy and more than once advised the destruction of the prisoners. On one occasion as I remonstrated with the late Mahomed Akber on the cruelty of dragging about the country helpless women and children, and was flattering myself on having made an impression, Mahomed Shah Khan with a fiendish grin replied, "Lawrence Sahib, listen to what I have to say. As long as a Red-coat is in this country, so long will your women and children be dragged about; where they can ride they may, where they cannot, they must walk; where they cannot walk, they must be carried; and when they can no longer be carried, their throats shall be cut!"

He is the Chief who carried me off on the fatal 23rd December, not from any wish to save my life, but from considering me more valuable alive than dead.

11th August 1847.—A second purwannah arrived last evening from the Durbar recalling the Deputy Governor, Dewan Hakim Raie, so I have consented to his going, but am sorry to lose him: though the Resident would let him remain, still, as he thinks the example will be of use, I will do the best I can to supply his place.

Rode through the city this evening and visited a remarkable well whose water in the hottest day is almost as cold as ice; it is drawn upon by the whole city: I keep a guard on it to preserve the peace.

12th August.—The Governor called in his Palankeen and sat a few minutes. I would not let him remain; he looks still so ill and is so very much reduced. I have told him not to move out again till he becomes stronger. On Mr. Thompson leaving him last night he presented him with 125 rupees, which was declined. The Governor then sent the purse to me and begged I would direct Mr. T. to take it; I returned it, saying I would first obtain the Resident's sanction as a special case.

Of 5,000 shot sent from Lahore 400 only have arrived; the remainder are reported to be left at Rhotas for want of carriage. 40 bullocks are said to have died *en route* in conveying the above.

13th August.—In my Diary of the 7th instant I reported the case of the Armenians at Cabul; yesterday I received a letter from them much to the same effect. I have consequently determined on writing privately and friendly to the Ameer and mention what I had heard and request his interference in their behalf.

I held my usual Durbar yesterday of the Urbobs, and arranged with them to attend at sunrise during the month of *Ramzan.*

Under orders from the Durbar reducing the Cavalry regiment to 550 sabres, the Governor selected three officers, nine non-commissioned three trumpeters and 94 sowars of the Aukhalee Regiment, and started them for Lahore with the ex-Deputy Governor, Dewan Hakim Raie.

At the request of the Mahomedan population the Governor has ordered the morning gun to be fired during the *Ramzan* an hour before daybreak.

14th August.—I called at sunrise on the Governor and transacted business to save his coming to me.

Some Moollahs at Hushtnuggur have had an affray in which several men have been wounded, and the chief Moollah, whom I had ordered to be apprehended and brought to me, has died of his wounds ; it seems he did his best to excite a serious commotion but failed ; there are said to be three or four more of his set ill-disposed whom I hope to lay hold of ere long. I have fully explained to the Barukzye Sirdars that I shall hold them strictly responsible for any breach of the peace within their Jagheers.

I have no recent intelligence of any consequence from the west, but matters are much as usual in that quarter ; here all continues well.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 29.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 15th, to Saturday, the 21st August 1847.

15th August 1847.—I fear there is no chance of my apprehending the Gundghurrias, who are represented by Captain Abbott to be among the Eusufzyes: it is a point of honor among all these tribes not to give refugees up and one of the few they adhere to most devoutly.

16th August.—Lieutenant Lumsden inspected the troops this morning while I visited the Governor and with him transacted business ; we inspected the Khas Regiment of Cavalry, and reduced their non-commissioned officers and sepoys to the new establishment.

A Mullik of Mitchenee, who had a suit in court which was given against him, took upon himself with 100 men to stop a merchant's *jallah* or float proceeding by the river from Jellalabad and sent word to me by the owners that he would keep the goods till I gave him redress: Mitchenee being in Sirdar Sultan Mahomed's Jagheer, I wrote him to do the needful and produce the Mullik before me.

I heard of the body of a woman and child being found with their throats cut near the village of Lundy yesterday ; no report has yet come from the Urbob of this double murder.

17th August.—Visited the Governor and transacted business ; he will soon be going about ; we arranged to send Colonel Holmes with a regiment of Cavalry, one of Infantry and four guns to the Eusufzye

country to collect the revenue, scarcely any having been paid in, and some villages having sent a flat refusal which it will never do to allow to pass.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 11th instant is that the Ameer is engaged in taking the muster of his troops, and after paying intends sending a portion under his son, Sirdar Mohamed Afzul Khan, to collect the revenue of Tegaon. Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, was paying off old scores on the tribes who had assisted the Ameer recently against him; Sirdar Mahomed Ameen Khan and 1,000 horse had been sent against him from Turkistan. The ruler of Khokand, Mussulman Khool, is said to have been deposed and killed, and Khymla Beg, son of Sarm Sak Beg, of the blood Royal placed in his stead. The Russians are reported to have built a fort within six or eight marches (150 *koss*) of Khiva, which they have garrisoned with four regiments and eight guns.

The merchandise from Cabul detained at Mitchenee has been released, but the Mullik not yet brought in.

18th August 1847.—Visited the Governor and transacted business. I have recommended small sums to be given to the proprietors of the houses recently blown up by the gunpowder explosion, and that the manufactory should in future be carried on a short distance from the city.

We get on much better without the Deputy Governor, Hakim Raie, than I expected; it has caused the Governor to exert himself.

Hearing that an Irishman named Ramsay, who had been many years in the service of Ursallah Khan of Zedah (Eusufzye), was in the Artillery of Sekunder Khan at Hussun Abdall, I requested Lieutenant Nicholson to send him to me. He reported himself this morning; he has difficulty in expressing himself in English, but speaks Pushtoo fluently. He declares he never was in the British service, but I doubt him; that he worked his passage to Bombay 15 years ago as a sailor, deserted the ship and joined a Kafila of Mahomedans, whom he accompanied to Swat, but by what route he declares he knows not. I shall keep him here for some time to get all the information I can out of him.

19th August.—Visited the Governor in the morning and transacted business; fixed the march of Colonel Holmes' detachment for to-morrow.

Lieutenant Lumsden rode to the village of Lundy seven miles to the south-west to investigate the circumstances attending the murder of the woman and child, but gained little information beyond satisfying himself as to the locality.

We visited the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur in the evening to inspect parts said to require repair.

A purwannah arrived from the Durbar ordering the troops to be out at exercise twice a week in the hot and four times in the cold weather: although there is a sensible change already in the mornings, I will wait 15 or 20 days ere I act upon it. I am happy to say as yet the troops are very healthy, but the next month is said to be very trying, and bad fevers prevail.

The Governor and Sirdar Kahn Singh, I am happy to say, are quite recovered.

20th August 1847.—Visited the Governor and transacted business.

The detachment under Colonel Holmes marched this morning. When they have crossed the Cabul river at Jangheera Lieutenant Lumsden by a forced march will join them, and then with the Cavalry push on and surprise the villages of Nowdeh and Kulloo, whose Mulliks have refused to pay their revenue; he will then *chapaw* the village of Gurry, where the Gundghurrias are said to have taken refuge when they fled from Captain Abbott's troops. It is the only chance I see of our seizing them, for the people or Khans will not give them up.

Held my weekly Durbar of the Urbobs, but at 7 A.M. instead of 11 on account of its being the *Ramzan*.

21st August.—Visited the Governor and transacted business. We have arranged to inspect the repairs required in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur and meet this evening for the purpose.

No more recent intelligence from the west than is detailed on the 17th. All is well here, and the troops continue to please me in every respect.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 30.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 22nd, to Saturday, the 28th August 1847.

22nd August 1847.—A special messenger arrived from Lahore with a letter from the Maharajah complimentary and sending an elephant for my use to replace the one previously sent; the new elephant however died *en route* at Rawul Pindee.

23rd August.—Lieutenant Lumsden started at 2 A.M. to overtake the detachment under Colonel Holmes, accompanied by Colonel Alla Singh.

The Regular and Irregular troops paraded this morning under General Golab Singh for my inspection. Sirdar Kahn Singh made an apology for the line his Ghorechurras formed, saying it was new to them. I replied that I had no doubt they would soon get into the way of it: 70 of them have proceeded with Colonel Holmes' detachment.

24th August.—Transacted business with the Governor; circulated the Durbar's proclamations prohibiting "Slave dealing," "Seizure of Begars," "Suttee" and "Infanticide": the two latter I have not heard as practised in these parts. An oversight appearing to me to have occurred in the Begaree proclamation, it not including forced labour which Jagheerdars and Ijarahdars (contractors) take out of the people, I have caused the Governor to add it to his, as being the spirit though not letter of the Durbar's order.

A report from Bahram Khan, Zedah, of an affray in which two men were killed, five men and five horses wounded; Lieutenant Lumsden will investigate it.

Commenced the issue of pay for the months of *Har* and *Sawun* (13th June to 15th August) to the troops as usual in my own verandah.

The Ghorechurras being ten months in arrears, and not having sufficient funds in their chest to give them four months' pay, I have offered Sirdar Kahn Singh 40,000 rupees from the Civil Treasury to be repaid on the arrival of assets from Lahore.

25th August.—The corpse of a young man killed in an affray yesterday in the Doaba was brought to me; there being no external marks of violence, I had the body opened. Mr. Thompson reports death

to have been caused by the bursting of a large blood vessel from a blow ; the parties are in confinement.

I have been taking an inventory of stores in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur, and in the article of lead alone found a defalcation of many hundred maunds : the Governor has reported it to the Durbar.

26th August 1847.—Held my weekly Durbar of the Urbobs ; they all express themselves well pleased at the proclamations prohibiting "Slave dealing," "Suttees," "Infanticide" and "Seizure of Begar," and say that it is by such just measures the British rule and fame is so renowned.

Colonel Holmes reports arrival in the Eusufzye country and that revenue was already coming in ; he wants a treasure chest.

27th August.—Sirdar Peer Mahomed has been taken seriously ill and has sent for his brother, Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, who has proceeded to him.

Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetia, now declines receiving any advance for the pay of the Ghorechurras, saying that he is afraid the Durbar would not approve of it. I have requested the Governor to send for, and talk to, him on the folly of his fears.

I have enquired but have not discovered that the recent proceedings at Lahore in the case of the Maharanee have caused any sensation among the troops ; the Governor and some of the officers who have mentioned it seem to approve of it.

28th August.—Transacted business with the Governor ; we were engaged some hours this morning.

Orders have arrived from the Durbar to purchase horses for the Artillery and camels to complete the establishment of regiments of Infantry.

I have received 8,000 rupees from the Resident, Lahore, compensation for the unfortunates who were plundered by Sirdar Sher Singh and his people ; it has caused quite a sensation, and will redound much to our credit.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 31.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 5th, to Saturday, the 11th September 1847.

5th September 1847.—A sepoy of the Khas Pultun laboring under sickness for a considerable time destroyed himself by cutting his throat with his *tulwar* last night.

Much lightning, wind, and a little rain during the night brought the thermometer down five degrees; it is still cloudy and threatening: a good fall of rain would bring on the cold weather.

6th September.—The Governor called with all the officers. He brought a purwannah from the Durbar in the matter of the Ranee being separated from the Maharajah, also one directing the planting and protection of trees thoughout the Province.

This morning I inspected all the troops, Regular and Irregular, on their respective parades: the Aukhalee Cavalry Regiment being very slovenly and dirty in dress and appointments, I ordered them to parade for inspection on the 8th instant.

A petition, unsigned, against Maun Singh, Colonel of the Poorbeah Regiment (Dhokul Singh's) accusing the Colonel of taking money from the men, I have handed over to the General to investigate; the Colonel denies of course, but admits that formerly money was taken but declares none since my arrival.

7th September.—Transacted business with the Governor, which consisted chiefly in hearing and approving what he has been doing for the last two days. He reports the confinement, for leaving his guard and being intoxicated, of a Subadar, son of Colonel Meer Jung Ali; the father is a most respectable old soldier, 25 years ago a Havildar in our 10th Native Infantry, the son a sad scamp; a court of enquiry has been ordered on him.

I have discharged my Treasurer on strong suspicion of changing the rupees and selling a piece of Kinkhab, supplying its place with one of inferior quality. There is a *butta* or percentage of two annas on all rupees coined before '84 which has existed since Avitabile's time; on examining the Treasury I find out of 9,000 rupees only 2,000 are *butta* less;

the shroffs make much money by this. I tried to stop it but failed signally.

8th September 1847.—The Governor called after receiving the reports of the army, brought the officers with him and sat two or three hours chatting with me.

I inspected at sunrise the Aukhalee Cavalry Regiment mounted, and passed them in review; one squadron, the left, both in this regiment and the Khas, are mounted on mares, which causes much unsteadiness in the ranks; the cattle are good but wild and require much drill, which they will get next month.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes on the 6th instant: "I am happy to say I have by riding about the *yaghee* villages with the Guides, and making them think we were going to blow them out of the world, arranged matters, though money comes slowly in. I have now settled a fixed rate for each village, which includes the Khans' and Mulliks' allowances; these gentry have done themselves considerably, but they had all fair warning and were told distinctly that nothing will be allowed to be collected beyond what is in black and white; Khader Khan's Tappas are now finished." He adds "I send back Sultan Mahomed Khan's sowars as I can do without them."

9th September.—Last evening I had the Aukhalee Cavalry dismounted, and after minutely inspecting them, put them through three or four simple manœuvres, the Colonel carrying out my orders in French. The men seemed amused, and I have little doubt would learn kindly; they require weeding, there being many old and infirm men still in their ranks.

This morning with the General I inspected 250 rank and file of the several corps. They are called recruits, but all are more or less men who had served in different regiments. They marched and fired well by Divisions, Grand Divisions, file firing, etc. I expressed my entire satisfaction and ordered them to join the ranks. One musket exploded, slightly injuring three men, whom I sent to Mr. Thompson for medical aid.

We then with most of the Colonels went down the mens' lines, directing various pools of water to be filled up and certain houses to be levelled, etc.

In the evening we inspected the 1st Ramgole Regiment, and discharged a few men, unfits who had escaped at previous inspections.

10th September 1847.—Last evening a messenger I had sent to summon the Mulliks of the village of Sheikh Mahmdee returned with an answer that they would not attend. The village is distant four *koss*, is a large straggling place, notoriously turbulent. With the Governor I arranged that Colonel Ruttun Singh with his regiment of Infantry and the Aukhalee Cavalry should march at midnight and *chapaw* it; they did so and have just brought in the Mulliks (11) with some stands of arms. The surprise was complete, and the result most successful. The Colonel brought a certificate from the chief inhabitants that no injury had been done them!

The Colonel of the Cavalry pleaded inability to accompany his corps from sickness, which, as I saw him quite well in the morning, must have been sudden, and requires investigation. He is a great opium-eater.

I held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs yesterday, at which were read and discussed the proclamations from Lahore received during the week. The Governor was present. I was asked if the people might attend the festival of the *Ead-i-Ramzan* on the 12th with their arms as had been customary; I recommended them not for fear of accidents.

11th September.—At an assembly of nearly 2,000 men yesterday in the great mosque of the city, after prayers the chief Mullah proclaimed: "I have for years prayed that justice might be administered in this Province; my prayers have at length been heard; you have now justice, may you long keep and prove worthy of it." A shout of "Amen" made the old walls ring again!

A large Kafila from Cabool arrived this morning by the river route. The merchants represent the road to Jellalabad as infested by Mahomed Shah Khan's Ghilzies and consequently impassable to small parties. One of the merchants brought an English sword to me for sale, which, though badly used, I immediately recognised as my own, taken from me on the day of the murder of the Envoy.

Five men have just been brought in, wounded yesterday in a mosque while at prayer; the three men who attacked them are in custody.

I had the Subadar, Colonel Meer Jung Ali's son, up, read him a proper lecture on his evil habits and the ruin they would bring down on him, disgrace to his family, etc., and said that, at the General's request, this time he was let off.

All is well; the country is one sheet of most luxuriant cultivation.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 32.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 12th, to Saturday, the 18th September 1847.

12th September 1847.—This being the festival of the *Ead-i-Ramzan* I have excused the Mahomedan troops duty, and there will be no Grand Parade to-morrow.

On Saturday evening with the Governor I inspected the 2nd Regiment of Ramgoles, from which we only selected four unfits; we also passed in review the *Zamboor* camels attached to the Ghore-churras which have picked up but little in condition. I told Sirdar Kahn Singh that, if in another month they were not fit for service, I should send them to Lahore.

13th September.—A purwanna arrived from the Durbar, dated four months back, promoting a Subadar to Adjutant by seniority. So says the purwanna, the Colonel, Ruttun Sing, says he is not the senior, though a reduced Adjutant, and that there is no vacancy in his corps. I have suspended the promotion pending a reference to the Resident.

This reminds me that I ought long since to have brought to notice the subject of promotion in the Sikh service, which requires being looked to, as at present the old system still prevails. I daresay it has not escaped the Resident and will be rectified in due course, and I know it is his wish that no promotions should take place till the half pay or reduced list is absorbed, but I do not think he is aware that still they are being made, or that there are some men who have been acting in the superior grades and have been so for more than a year, and only receiving the pay of the lower grade. When I asked why, the reply was the *putta* or commission had not arrived.

In some corps there are two Commandants, two and three Adjutants, while in others only one of each; some troops of Horse Artillery have two Adjutants while others one. I am aware that all this may have been caused by the great reduction of troops and wish to provide for different officers; still till these are absorbed all promotion should cease.*

I attended the fair held annually at this season at which were collected from 15,000 to 20,000 people, men and boys, no women; the Barukzye Sirdars and all the Sikh officers were present, their followers the only ones armed. Sirdar Peer Mahomed said he had never seen so quiet and orderly a concourse; the only amusement appeared to be feats in horsemanship, firing at marks and taking up tent-pegs. I had a Resallah and company of Regulars on the ground to keep the peace, but their services, I am happy to say, were not required.

The Police took up a man accused of an old murder, and one pick-pocket. The European, Ramsay, I was obliged to send off the field; he was intoxicated and kept riding in among the people, knocking and pushing them about. I have requested the General to keep him in confinement till further orders.

14th September 1847.—Another fair was held this day about four *koss* off; it is said to have been more numerously attended than yesterday's, but all went off well; the Police and a Resallah Company kept the ground.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes on the 13th: "I find my *chapaw* has done much good and has sent back nearly all the runaways to their villages, besides bringing me a deputation from Loonkhore to know when and where I will be pleased to receive their revenue. I replied that I am not in the habit of treating with villagers, but that the Mulliks will be received if they come to me alone. The Mullik of Babeen (a village on the Swat border which has paid no revenue for the last six years) made his salam to me yesterday, and brought the amount of his *kist* in his hand, which speaks well for the row created."

Intelligence from Cabul to the 8th instant contains little of interest beyond the fact, which, if true, is an extraordinary one: "That on the 2nd the Ameer received a letter from Syed Mahomed Khan,

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**Note.*—The subject of adjustment to rank, pay and promotion is a difficult one, and has long had my serious attention.

H. M. LAWRENCE,
Resident.

Pugmaunee, *alias* Jan Fishan Khan, saying that the British troops would shortly be at Jellalabad and call for sundry persons, who if sent, it would be well, if not the Ameer must look to himself and family."

Rumor was rife that Yar Mahomed of Herat had received three wounds, supposed to be in action with the Huzarahs, and that the Persians had taken Herat.

Nawab Jubbar Khan had had an epileptic fit and meditated a trip to Mecca, as did Meer Hafiz Jee, the son of the late Meer Waiez.

I have entertained as Treasurer, Pokhur Dass, Shikarporie, formerly Treasurer to the late Sir A. Burnes, C.B., pending the arrival of a man for whom I have written to India.

15th September 1847.—Transacted business with the Governor and received the nuzzurs of all the Urbobs and gentry on the festival of *Ead-i-Ramzan.*

Zukurrea Khan, third son of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, with 100 horse, returned from Eusufzye, their services not being required; the young Sirdar is a fine, handsome, soldier-like looking man, not unlike his cousin, the late Mahomed Akber.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes me on the 14th: "That the Mulliks of Nowdeh and Kulloo, who escaped him in his late *chapaw*, but whose wives and children he had secured, had given themselves up and would start under charge of my Chupper Bashee to-day for Peshawur and that he had little doubt such was the effect of his night visit but that the Gundghur refugees would either be given up or forced to take flight."

16th September.—Though the Urbobs were all with me yesterday they attended the weekly Durbar this morning; we discussed the flourishing state of the crops and the quiet which prevailed throughout the Province, passing mutual compliments. The cotton crop is said to be a failure; indeed I have myself seen it is so.

The Governor after receiving the reports brought all the officers to salam; they sat for a couple of hours with me.

The Adjutant of Ram Sahaie Singh's regiment's period of suspension from rank and pay having expired was brought before us, suitably admonished and directed to return to his duty; the Colonel asked that he might be removed to another regiment, but both the General and I declined.

At the General's and several of the other officers' request I consented to pardon Ramsay; he was sent for, admonished and released. He says if he is found again intoxicated, we may blow him from a gun. I fear he is incorrigible.

17th September 1847.—I rode this morning to the Cabul River, nine *koss*, to settle a dispute about water, involving a loss of revenue to the amount of 12,000 or 14,000 rupees. The rice crop in the neighbourhood for want of irrigation is nearly destroyed. My decision will, I trust, save it; there is no end to these disputes about water. I mounted at 4 A.M., and, though I rode as fast as the nature of the ground admitted, did not return till half past 10. Every village—and I passed many—turned out to see me, the Mulliks bringing money and sheep, both of which I declined; all were most respectful and orderly. The country is an ugly one for troops to act in, from the high walls round the villages and the deep and numerous water-courses.

A news-letter from Cabul of the 4th instant reports that Maharajah Golab Singh had proposed an alliance with the Ameer, and that he should attack Peshawur, while the Maharajah did the same by Lahore; that the Ameer had rejected it at once. Messengers are said to be constantly passing between them.

The Resident's notification to the army of the establishment of a Pension and Invalid list, with the grant of pension to the families of soldiers killed in action, has given great satisfaction. I have already been applied to by some to know if they may avail themselves of it; the Governor even, smiling said he had only two years to complete 40 of service.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 33.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 19th, to Saturday, the 25th September 1847.

19th September 1847.—Sunday.

20th September.—Inspected the troops, Regular and Irregular; the Ghorechurras now form line well. All appeared in good order. The General with the officers waited on me. After parade, I

mentioned to him in their presence that I had heard it was supposed he did not approve of officers visiting me; he declared it was not true, and that he would announce again that all were at liberty to call when they pleased.

The Durbar and Barukzye Sirdars have for months been at issue about a debt of 30,000 rupees, the former claiming and latter denying. A purwanna yesterday to the Governor arrived directing their jagheers to be confiscated till payment be made. I have written the Sirdars recommending their settling the demands.

I had fixed upon moving into camp this morning, but at the Governor's request have postponed it till the 24th. I take Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment (Sikhs) and two guns with 75 leave-of-absence men of the Khas Regiment of Cavalry. It is still very hot during the day, but I am anxious to settle the affairs of the Eusufzyes if possible.

21st September 1847.—Transacted business with the Governor; he wishes me to send Lieutenant Lumsden to assist him in my absence. I have told him, better first try how he gets on alone.

Rode out five *koss* towards Pubbee to settle another dispute about water, between the *Ijarahdar* of Khalsa and the Durbar news-writer, the latter has evidently been getting three times the quantity his village is entitled to.

22nd September.—Engaged most of the day with the Governor laying down rules, etc., for his guidance.

Called on all the officers to show by their conduct during my absence that they were sensible of the advantages they derived from the present order of things.

23rd September.—All the Urbobs called to-day and we had much conversation on the state of the country. They represent it in every way to be greatly improved and attribute it all to British interference: oppression has ceased, property is respected, the strong kept in subjection, and weak protected.

It being reported that Kumurooddeen Khan, repeatedly noticed in my Diaries, had with a party of 50 or 60 armed men proceeded last night

to attack one of his own relations and had forcibly released a man seized in an attempt at robbery, I had him and his nephew, his Nazir and one or two of his men, immediately put into confinement, and his premises searched. 60 horses were brought to me, all said to belong to him. It appears that on his dismissal from the "Protection of the road" he did not dismiss his armed retainers but kept them, with what view may be imagined. As he is a debtor to the State in some thousands, I ordered all his horses fit for the service to be made over to the Artillery, on valuation by a Committee, and enquiry to be made into the accusation against him. He avowedly has only the means of bare support, and therefore his keeping up such an establishment can be for no good.

A report has prevailed in the city for some days of town duties and inland customs being abolished at Lahore, to the great joy of the people, and not a little to their relief: many have enquired when Peshawur will be equally favored. I replied, doubtless soon.

24th September 1847.—Starting the Sikh Regiment with guns and Cavalry at 4 A.M. under Colonel Mehtab Singh, Moraria, for Pubbee, I followed in the evening with a small escort. The Governor and most of the officers were with me to the last moment, expressing much regret at even my temporary departure. Riding through the city, it appeared more like a fair; it was so thronged: all saluted most respectfully and many blessed me, praying for my speedy return.

I reached camp at Pubbee by 7 P.M., distance 8 *koss*, or 12 miles; road good, and country well cultivated; the village is a petty one of about 100 houses; half way crossed the Barrah river which just now is not above a foot deep.

25th September.—It rained a little during the night, but not sufficient to prevent the march of the troops at 4 A.M. I followed at 7, reaching Nowshera at 9, distance about 7 *koss*, the whole over an extensive grass plain which was completely under water at the great inundation of the Attock in 1840 and has been improved by it.

My camp is on the bank of the Nagoman or Cabul river, which is here about 250 yards wide with a bank of about 20 feet. The town is on the left bank, merely a bazar, and the fort a small square with four bastions, being on this side. The flood swept away several villages and a great part of the town, destroying many people.

In the fort is a garrison of 35 Ramgoles, it is a place of no strength, save against horsemen; has no stores, but a few maunds of powder and lead.

I am crossing my guns and cavalry to-day, as there are only two boats at this ferry, so as not to delay the march to-morrow. I purpose halting and letting all the rest pass over during the day.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 34.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 26th September, to Saturday, the 2nd October 1847.

26th September 1847.—Received from John Lawrence, Esquire, new customs regulations, and abolishing all petty taxes and reducing those retained, fixing the collections to be made at certain points: the relief thus afforded to the poor will be immense, not only in the abolition of the customs, but in thus stopping the extortion and oppression of collectors, which in many cases exceeded the legitimate tax.

Naib Mahomed Shereef, our pensioner, the friend of the late Sir A. Burnes, who is the contractor of Nowshera, followed me here and has been most useful in procuring supplies, etc.

All the camp have crossed the river; I follow in the evening.

27th September.—March at 6 A.M., reaching Touroo in Eusufzye at half past 8, distance about 12 miles. A mile from Nowshera crossed a small kotul or pass over a low crest of hills (the field of battle which decided the fate of Peshawur), from which the road descended into a vast plain of rich alluvial soil but uncultivated, said to be from the difficulty of procuring water: thence for four miles road good to the village of Barrah Bundee, situated to the right on a gentle rise surrounded by rich cultivation, which continued more or less to camp; twice crossed the river Culpanee, a broad and deep bed but not dry; it is the boundary of Hushtnuggur and Eusufzye. Here I found Khader Khan of Touroo. The road thence runs along the bank on which are several Persian wheels, and the ground is highly cultivated, the crop of bajra and cotton luxuriant.

In the evening it was reported that some horsemen from Pullee had shortly after we passed carried off a Hindoo from close to Nowshera; these are the robbers who hitherto secure in their fastnesses live by plundering the country.

Many Khans called on me and presented horses, sheep and rice; the former I returned, but sent the latter to be distributed by Colonel Mehtab Singh to the troops.

Lieutenant Lumsden joined me by appointment, leaving Colonel Holmes' force in camp at Kaloo Khan, distant only eight miles, with an open country between us, so that we can quickly unite if necessary.

28th September 1847.—Last evening and this morning we rode four or five *koss* to view the country, passing though the village of Hotee and Myehai; its features are much the same as already described, parts being highly cultivated and others, very much the greater, quite barren, though all good soil, and water to be had for the digging.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor from Huzarah; he hopes to be with me in a few days; marches by Torbela and Oond; many of his people are sick, and it is not to be wondered at, for the heat in the day is great and cold at night equally so. At sunrise the thermometer in my tent stands at 60, at midday at 94°!

Issued a proclamation calling on all the people who had fled to the neighbouring hills to return within a month, on pain of forfeiture of land and rights, and telling them that an equitable settlement of revenue to include all demands, Government or their Khan's, was about to be made.

Heard from Sirdar Golab Singh, the Cazee and heads of Police: all going on well at Peshawur; have directed daily reports to be sent me.

29th September.—Rode last evening and this morning to several villages and stuck up our proclamation in the mosques; we were accompanied by Colonels Mehtab Singh and Purtab Singh, commanding the Ghorechurras.

The Khans are troubled and appear to think their reign at an end.

Heard last night that the robbers of Pullee had driven off a herd of cattle, killing one man and wounding three, at a short distance from Nowshera. Wrote to Sirdar Syed Mahomed to cause 50 sowars

to patrol from Hushtnuggur to Nowshera and that I should make him answerable for the safety of the roads within his jagheer.

Ursulla Khan of Zedah called to report his arrival from India. I lectured him on his not paying his respects at Lahore and told him he might expect to be ordered there; he has evidently a high sense of his own importance which must be lessened ere long. He is shrewd and intelligent and professes great devotion to us. He presented four horses. I returned all, but on his entreating me and urging that he would be lowered in the eyes of his people, I retained one.

30th September 1847.—Great rejoicing at Peshawur and all around on the promulgation of the new customs rules and abolition of the mass of petty taxes, which, though yielding little to the State, were productive of much oppression and extortion.

This wise and truly politic measure will redound much to our credit. Its fame and beneficial results will extend through Turkistan to the gates of Moscow and will next to annihilate the trade of Cabul, as hitherto from the heavy duties in the Punjaub the Lohanee merchants have had it all to themselves, they taking the Bikaneer and Bhawulpore route through Dera Ismail Khan and Guznee to Cabul, which occupied three months, whereas now 40 days will do it, and Peshawur instead of receiving its piece-goods from Cabul will send them there.

Rode about as usual morning and evening. Comparatively few petitions are presented, kept back I doubt not by the Khan.

The other day some Sikh sepoys reclining near a well under trees were heard to express their wonder " how it was that not a Singh had been murdered this time since they entered the Eusufzye country, whereas on all other occasions not a day passed but several were destroyed; " it must be," said they, " that the people are afraid of these two white faces." They then discussed the separation of the Ranee from the young Rajah and wondered " whether we meant to play him fair." One replied, " rely upon it they do; they always are true to their engagements": " ah but," said the other, "the bait is great; can they withstand it "!

1st October.—Took our usual ride; a few more petitions have come in, but chiefly from distant Tuppas.

Lieutenant Lumsden's Guides inform him that the Pullee plunderers have a picket several miles in advance of their position to give

notice of our approach, so that they may have time to fly: they are very suspicious of all strangers approaching; while one of his men was with them, an old woman gave the alarm that she had seen the Feringhies *en route* to Pullee, which caused an instant rush to the hills. The Chief on the return of the foraging party highly approved of their success in bringing the cattle, but reprobated the spilling of blood. "You will have those Sahibs on us," he said, "if you murder."

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor that, consequent upon having obtained the sanction of the Resident, he purposed joining Maharajah Golab Singh's troops in an expedition against the Suddhoons, which he supposed would delay his joining me for six weeks or two months. Wrote him in reply that as I should proceed to Lahore about the end of the month, it was necessary he should be with me ere then to arrange his duties; Lieutenant Lumsden being required for some months in Eusufzye to carry out our settlement, his services would be needed to visit the districts and occasionally to run into Peshawur to keep all straight.

2nd October 1847.—Colonel Alla Singh, the Governor's son, joined us from Peshawur yesterday, though I had recommended his father keeping him to assist in his government during my absence; the old gentleman says he can do without him, and that his post is with us.

Took our ride as usual. We seldom meet a dozen people in as many miles; the country seems quite deserted, an unearthly stillness prevailing, only broken by the squeaking and creaking of the Persian wheels which are at work night and day.

General Elahee Buksh, commanding Artillery, sent me a set of horse appointments, 180 sets of which have arrived from Lahore: a more disgraceful turnout I never saw; they are made by contract and evidently will not last three months. I made up 100 sets at Peshawur for much less money, and in every way superior.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

CAMP TOUROO, EUSUFZYE:

2nd October 1847.

No. 35.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 3rd, to Saturday, the 9th October 1847.

3rd October 1847.—Sunday.

4th October.—Had a grand parade of the troops, after which sent them to make a promenade through the neighbouring villages, etc.

A letter from the Mulliks of Loonkhore: they say their country produces little or nothing and is unable to pay revenue; this is in reply to my summons for them to wait on me.

Sent orders to Colonel Holmes to march to-morrow to Sawul Dhur, near Jumal Ghurry, to which I purposed moving at the same time had not we found in the evening that another day at Touroo was necessary to complete its settlement.

Lieutenant Lumsden seized a spy from Pullee, who acknowledged that he had been deputed to watch our proceedings. He had driven off 20 bullocks three months before, and was pointed out by the owner. On being questioned he coolly acknowledged the fact, saying he had given them up on receiving 25 rupees, which sum he was now prepared to refund: he seemed to deem it hard measure his being put into confinement for such a mere matter of trade!

5th October.—With Colonels Mehtab Singh, Alla Singh and other officers, accompanied by 20 or 30 of the men, we went out hog-hunting; the sepoys were most eager, and appeared to enjoy the sport highly.

Colonel Holmes reports that finding scarcity of water at Sawul Dhur, he fell back on Hamzah Ghur, a mile in its right rear.

6th October.—Marched to Jumal Ghurry, 12 miles; for the first four to the village of Mahoba partial cultivation, from thence over a barren plain passing the small village of Cazeeabad, round which were a few patches cultivated. There is no road but a foot-path; the country however is so flat that the guns had no difficulty in moving.

Jumal Ghurry is a small village, with only three wells in or near it; water very scarce and little or no cultivation. Opposite to our camp on the spur of a hill "called Brahma" are the remains of an ancient stronghold, which we visited and in which we found many beautifully carved figures in stone, most more or less defaced. The natives could give us no information connected with the place; an adjoining hill is called "Gungah."

7th October 1847.—Marched to Cutlung, which is just in rear of the hill called Brahma, and over which is a narrow foot-path. The gun road winds round the spur and then up a narrow gorge (easily defensible) for two or three miles, where it opens into this valley, which is bleak and barren.

This village consists of three divisions on as many mounds with a sort of basin below and separating them, through which runs a stream, at present nearly dry. It seems a wretched place, producing little or nothing.

The Mulliks of Cutlung and Loonkhore waited on us and professed their willingness to pay what they could, but that it was little they had, and most of the villages near the hills they said would not pay at all. Two, named Shamoozye and Baboozye, distant only three *koss*, priding themselves on having foiled Sirdar Sher Singh's attack and inflicting considerable loss on the Sikhs, would not hear of even paying their respects. I have written to their Mulliks advising their coming in and talking to us.

Colonel Holmes' force joined at Cutlung this morning, so that we now muster 6 Horse Artillery guns, a regiment of Cavalry, 64 Ghorechurras, 40 jagheer horse, two regiments of Infantry and four companies of Ramgoles, exclusive of the Guide Corps.

Posted the pickets myself, a double chain, foot and horse.

8th October.—We reconnoitred this morning the village of Shamoozye. Found the people on the alert, with flags flying and occupying the most commanding positions; it is in a cleft of the hills, their sides protected by them, the front is defended by a breastwork said to be of wood. Unless we can crown the heights I fear we shall lose many lives.

Received a reply to my letters; both the villages profess submission, but declare they are too poor to pay revenue. I have again written them "to send me their headmen to talk to me, when I had no doubt we would easily arrange matters; that till they come in I could do nothing to ease them of their burdens."

In the evening with a few horse we rode to the village of———, which we found nearly deserted; came on all their flocks and herds, which as we did not plunder I am led to hope will show the people that

they have not the old Sikhs under Sirdar Sher Singh to deal with. This valley being entirely dependent on rain for irrigation and little having fallen this year, there is hardly a particle of vegetation.

9th October 1847.—Reconnoitred this morning the village of Baboozye; found all prepared to give us a warm reception. Three shots were fired at us, which, until the men who fired are given up, will preclude our making any terms with the people. The village is situated much as Shamoozye in the cleft of the hill, but seems more open in the rear. I annex a field sketch of the two taken by Lieutenant Lumsden.

Hearing that there was a foot-path from the opposite or Suddoom side of the hill, we sent a Guide yesterday to reconnoitre it, and I am happy to say that he reports it accessible to the very top; once there, a few men can command the village and its defences. We send a party to-night, under the pretext of looking for cattle of the Baboozye people said to have been sent across the hill, and on Monday morning we expect to be enabled to give a good account of these warlike gentlemen.

The Mulliks of Shamoozye have just come in and paid their respects, the first time they say they ever did to any one. We commended them accordingly, and sent them back apparently well pleased; they were greatly alarmed at first, fancying we should seize and imprison them. I gave them no Khillut or money, deeming it a bad practice thus to pay rebels.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 25th ultimo of no sort of interest.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 36.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 10th, to Saturday, the 16th October 1847.

10th October 1847.—The Guide Company with a company of Ramgoles marched last night for the Suddoom valley with orders to ascend the hill above Baboozye, so as to reach the summit by daybreak and descend as soon as they see the main force in position.

Towards evening received a message from Futty Khan, the Duffadar of Guides, who leads the party, reporting arrival at Suddoom

and his having commenced searching for the cattle of the insurgents as a blind. Meer Baba had assembled his men ready to co-operate.

Struck our camp and placed all the baggage in a defensible position, telling off a resallah and three companies for its protection.

At a meeting of Commanding Officers in my tent explained to each the plan of operations for to-morrow, so that if possible there may be no mistake. Told them to warn their men against plundering or leaving the ranks on any pretext, and to take no camp followers but water-carriers; all seem most eager and anxious to please.

11th October 1847.—The force marched at 2 A.M., consisting of 6 Horse Artillery guns; 470 Sabres, Khas Dragoons and Ghorechurras; 972 rank and file Sikh Regiment, Nujeebs and Ramgoles: all in high spirits.

The action commenced by the enemy on the left spur attacking our right skirmishers; the guns were quickly brought to bear on the heights and village, but did not succeed in clearing either. The skirmishers were then ordered to force the spur under cover of a water-course, but mistaking the order they made a rush up the face which was perpendicular; here they were brought up and took shelter as best they could. Seeing their critical position I withdrew them, but not till they had sustained some loss. Rallying them under shelter of som trees I detached their support to carry out the original order.

The skirmishers of the left column took up an excellent position within musket range of the village, and I supported them by posting the main body under Colonel Holmes on a rocky mound commanding its left defences.

My chief object was to engage the attention of the enemy from our rear attack, without exposing my men, and in this I succeeded, though much against their inclination, several of the Colonels coming up to me at different times and begging me to give the order for a general assault.

At length on seeing the head of our rear attack debouching from the hill, I gave the much desired order, which was promptly obeyed. The enemy fled in all directions, and the village was in our possession.

Our loss is trifling – 1 killed and 13 wounded. Mr. Thompson was in the field and most useful.

The troops throughout the day behaved admirably ; not an attempt was made to plunder or leave the ranks till I gave the order to fire the village, when I told them to help themselves.

12th October 1847.—As the troops were collecting yesterday to return to camp after the destruction of the village, Lieutenant Lumsden observed at the distance of some miles, among the brushwood, the Pullee Cavalry robbers. Instantly giving chase with 24 of his Guides and some Khas Dragoons, after a gallop of six miles he came up with them, but only just as they entered the village, into which he did not think it prudent to follow them; another mile more and he would have given a good account of them. He reports that the Dragoons were soon left in the rear.

Lieutenant Taylor joined me yesterday shortly after our return to camp, having made a forced march of 30 miles in hopes of being in time for the action; his disappointment was great at finding it over.

The Mulliks of several *yaghee* villages have tendered obeisance, many who never were known to do so before ; the fate of Baboozye has opened their eyes.

13th October.—Marched this morning to Leekpanee, about five miles in advance toward Pullee, the force under Colonel Holmes proceeding direct; Lieutenants Lumsden, Taylor and myself, with Colonels Kahn Singh, Rosa, and Alla Singh and two resallahs of Dragoons proceeding by the village of Loonkhore, which gives name to the district.

I had intended to pitch my camp there, but from the nullah being dry and water only procurable from wells, changed my mind.

Loonkhore is a large populous village, contains about 1,500 houses, 100 of which are Hindoos, who carry on an extensive trade with Swat; it is surrounded by a deep and broad ravine and if defended could only be taken with much loss; from the Cutlung side it might be cannonaded with effect.

We rode through most of the streets attended by the Mulliks, the women crowding the tops of the houses and the men the doorways to see us, the latter giving us the "welcome of peace."

The country is bleak and barren, not a blade of vegetation did we see in our whole ride.

A deputation from Baboozye, a Syed and Hindoo, to know if they would be forgiven. "Certainly," I replied, "on the Mulliks attending, which they might do without the slightest fear."

14th October 1847.—I am happy to say our wounded are doing well. I have given up my hill tent to them, and we all visit them daily. Mr. Thompson is unremitting in his attention to them ; the poor fellows seem most sensible of all this and thankful, contrasting it with what would have been their fate had they not had the Sahiban with them !

Rode towards Pullee this morning, but thinking we saw their sowars, spread out to intercept them and so taken out of our course visited the village of Kohee instead : received most graciously ; most of them were out against us on the 11th !

Wrote to the Mulliks of Pullee to come in, give up the Hindoo their horsemen had seized at Nowshera, and the man who had committed the murder in that quarter, otherwise they must stand the consequences.

15th October.—Reconnoitred Pullee. In approaching it met a messenger with a reply to my letter ; it was not to the purpose, so we sent him back, telling him to caution the Mullik against any shot being fired at us.

On nearing the village we found all ready to receive us warmly, but it is a place of no strength, being quite in the open ; they might possibly give us a volley or two and then would take to the hills.

The Governor of Peshawur writes me that he had a salute fired to announce our victory, and alarm the evil disposed. He wants to send me reinforcements, but I have declined them.

16th October.—Lieutenant Taylor and I rode to the village of Kurekee to examine some ancient remains similar to those I saw at Jumal Ghurry, Lieutenant Lumsden going towards Baboozye to make a sketch of the valley.

Meer Baba of Suddoom, our good ally, brought in 200 head of cattle he had seized belonging to the villages of Shamoozye and

Baboozye; these we restored to them to-day to their amazement and our credit.

I hear daily from Peshawur from the Governor, Cazee, Police Officers, etc., and all, I rejoice to say, appears to go on well.

GEO ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 37.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 24th, to Saturday, the 30th October 1847.

24th October 1847.—Crossed the guns and Infantry over the river yesterday and the Cavalry during the night; had six boats, two from Khesgy, one from Akhora and two from Nowshera: all got over well.

Marched to Pubbee by the old or King's road. The crops are nearly ripe and look promising.

A deputation from the Governor waited on me with a *zeafut*, etc.

25th October.—Marched from Pubbee at daybreak; near Chumkunnee we were met by the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, Sirdars Sultan Mahomed and Peer Mahomed Khan, General Elahee Bukhsh and others, who accompanied us through the city to the Agency. The troops were drawn up in line, extending from the Cabul Gate to the left of the Ali Murdan Cantonment, and looked clean and well appointed. A salute of nine guns was fired on our passing the Governor's residence and one of 11 guns on reaching the parade.

The officers, Urbobs, etc., on alighting were introduced to Lieutenant Taylor, and then presented the Dusserah *nuzzurs* to me; the amount I lodged in the Peshawur Treasury.

The city was all alive and the tops of the houses crowded to see us pass.

I am happy to say only two or three petitions were presented during the day, which shows a decided improvement in the state of affairs.

26th October.—Commenced the issue of two months' pay to the Khas Dragoons returned from service in Eusufzye.

Transacted business with the Governor in revenue matters; Lieutenant Taylor present to see how matters were carried on.

Visited the regimental parades. Two companies of Colonel Meer Jung Ali's corps were practising Light Infantry movements.

Likewise with Lieutenant Taylor visited the fort, magazines, etc.: the late Commandant with the officers in charge of stores are in confinement on the grave charge of embezzling Government property; it has been going on for years.

27th October 1847.—Sirdar Kahn Singh with all his officers of Ghorechurras waited on me with their Dusserah *nuzzurs*, which I made over to the Peshawur Treasury.

With Lieutenant Taylor visited the Wuzeeree Bagh; found Sirdar Sultan Mahomed and family occupying the house. We were received most graciously and sat some time with him; he has made quite a show place of it.

The Havildar of Nujeebs recently promoted by me and who was severely wounded at Baboozye died to-day; the rest of the wounded are in my hospital doing well.

I have many complaints against the new ferry toll collectors.

28th October.—Transacted business with the Governor, and afterwards held my weekly durbar of Urbobs, to all of whom I introduced Lieutenant Taylor; they are full of congratulations on my late operations in Loonkhore.

The Governor came to me this evening in rather a perturbed state with a purwanna from the Durbar to hold a regiment of Cavalry, three of Infantry and a troop of Horse Artillery in readiness to march *viâ* Kohaut to Bunnoo Tank. Also an order for the Barukzye Sirdars with 2,000 horse and foot to accompany the force. I have issued orders accordingly, though the force of Infantry thus taken from this is somewhat large, seeing that there is already one corps with Lieutenant Lumsden in Eusufzye and another may be required in that quarter.

29th October.—Took Lieutenant Taylor this morning to pay the Governor a visit. We met the several officers, civil and military, in durbar, and sat upwards of an hour.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 21st instant is that on the 1st Sirdar Mahomed Akram Khan had applied to his father from Huzara for reinforcements, as 20,000 men were collected against him and he was hard pressed. The Ameer in reply told him to hold his own; he should be quickly aided; parties were daily proceeding from Cabul *viâ* Kohistan to reinforce him.

On the 6th instant a merchant of Cashmere and Bokhara told Nuwab Jubbar Khan that a large Russian force had arrived within eight marches (*munzel*) of Khìva at a place called Aka Musjid.

Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, was still in rebellion against the Ameer, and it was said that the British at Peshawur had written him in terms of approval and encouragement.

A purwannah from the Durbar has reached the Governor for the execution of the sepoy in Meer Jung Ali's regiment who murdered a prostitute. I have directed it to be carried into effect on Monday next, in the mode customary in the Sikh service, which is to march the prisoner round the cantonments and then execute him.

30th October 1847.—Lieutenant Taylor transacted business with the Governor in my presence and heard all the reports of the army and city. He likewise investigated the daily cases, petitions, etc., and will continue to do so.

The troops returned from Eusufzye with Colonel Holmes have received their pay for two months, and will receive two more with the rest of the force on arrival of the treasure.

A large kafila has just arrived from Cabul by the river or Tartarrah route and I am told has brought much property belonging to our unfortunate army.

I regret to say fever is prevalent just now among the troops and small-pox is raging in the city.

Another prostitute has been cut down by a sepoy, a Mussalman in Colonel Dewa Singh's Sikh regiment: he is in custody.

I purpose starting for Lahore on the 4th proximo, having made all arrangements for carrying on the duties here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 38.—Political Diaries of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, and Lt. R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, from Sunday, the 31st October, to Saturday, the 6th of November 1847.

31st October 1847.—Sunday.

1st November.—Inspected the troops at Grand Parade, after which with Lieutenant Taylor saw Colonel Ruttun Singh put his Regiment of Sikhs through a few manœuvres, which were creditably executed.

With the Governor we then inspected 112 bullocks reported unfit for further service by the Commandant of the Artillery; 56 of these had just arrived from Huzara in a batch of 300; directed all to be sold on account of Government.

Lieutenant Taylor transacted business with the Governor in my presence.

The sepoy of Meer Jung Ali's Regiment found guilty of the murder of a prostitute was executed this morning in the manner customary in the Sikh army, that is, he was marched through the city and cantonments under charge of the police and a company from Ruttun Singh's Regiment and then hung. At least 10,000 people attended, among whom were crowds of women, who highly applauded this prompt justice.

2nd November.—With Lieutenant Taylor I took a long walk into the country, passing several villages; we had only two attendants. The people saluted us in the most cordial manner and seemed much gratified at our thus going among them.

The crops, with the exception of cotton, are most flourishing; ploughing and sowing are going on in good style.

Lieutenant Taylor heard the reports of the troops and transacted business with the Governor, who is taking to him famously.

A camel load of medical stores arrived this morning from the Umballa Depôt for the use of the Agency; just in time as our medicines were getting scarce.

3rd November.—Lieutenant Taylor transacted business with the Governor and received the reports of the city, troops, etc.

All the officers waited on me this morning to take leave ; most had some petitions to make regarding their decrease of pay, reduction in rank, etc. I listened to all and gave them soft words in reply.

There being several non-commissioned vacancies in Colonel Soobhan Khan's and Maun Singh's Regiments, I had the seniors of each grade up and selected the most efficient for promotion.

We rode to the Cavalry Parade this morning to see the Brigade exercise under Colonel Kahn Singh, Rosa : he handled them fairly.

4th November 1847.—Major Lawrence left for Lahore before daylight ; a salute of guns was fired on the occasion. I rode a short distance on the Hushtnuggur road : on returning to the house I found the Sirdar awaiting me ; transacted business with him.

The Urbobs of the various Tuppas came according to custom to present themselves, Thursday being their day for audience.

5th November.—The regiments paraded on their respective parade grounds.

I rode to the village of Chittee Dheree in the Khulleel Tuppah, about five miles to the south-west of Ali Murdan Bagh. At the village of Paokah on the road to Chittee Dheree, I found the fields filled with cotton-pickers. This crop did not appear to me to have suffered so much in the neighbourhood of this village as it has in other places. I examined some pods and asked one of the pickers whether they ought to be larger than they were. He said no, that they were not usually much larger.

The Indian corn crops are very luxuriant ; on one occasion I addressed some words of admiration of them to one of a group of zumeendars near Chittee Dheree. He in reply commenced in the usual querulous tone that prayers for reduction of assessment are made in saying that the crop was spoilt and the country ruined (*sic*). I was so taken by surprise that I laughed in his face and was joined much to his chagrin by his companions and friends, who seemed to be aware that there was little hope of making any one believe the assertion of the desponding spokesman.

At Chittee Dheree I ascended to the roof of Zereen Khan Urbob's house and from thence obtained a good view of the surrounding country, the village of Tukal and forts of Bara and Jumrood.

I omitted to mention that I yesterday presided at the distribution of 670 rupees to the inhabitants of the Dhobees' mohullah in the city, being a portion of an unjust fine extorted from them in Sirdar Outar Singh's time. A man was found hanging in their mohullah, having, it is supposed, committed suicide, but no clue being found as to the supposed murderers, between 7 and 800 rupees were exacted as a fine from the whole mohullah. Of this sum only 670 rupees found its way to the Government *Petee*, and to the restoration of that sum Major Lawrence obtained the sanction of the Durbar. The people seemed thoroughly to appreciate this piece of retrospective justice. I explained to them that 670 rupees was the amount received by Government on the occasion, and that that was all they would receive again. They replied that they would be glad to take whatever was allowed.

Transacted business with the Sirdar after breakfast.

Mahomed Ameer Khan, Khulleel, requested leave to take Ursulla Khan of Zedah, who is under orders to remain at Peshawur, to his house for the purpose of giving him an entertainment. I consented to his being absent two days, telling the former that he would be answerable for his appearance if wanted in the interim.

6th November 1847.—Rode to some of the Mohmund villages beyond Banamoree. The whole of the southern suburbs of the city are still well wooded and many of the old gardens remain, but to the west, north and east, a clean sweep has been made of them.

In the evening the Sirdar brought the officers of Artillery and I wrote down their names.

Ramdass, Dufteree, presented a number of *Tunkhwahs* for signature. I had heard that Major Lawrence had directed Gunput Rae, Treasurer, to present all *Tunkhwahs*, so I told Ramdass to make them over to him.

The Sirdar requested that the usual Monday parade might be excused on account of the *Dewalee*, also that the sums allowed by regulations for the purchase of oil, etc., for illuminations, might be sanctioned, namely, 5 rupees for each regular regiment of Cavalry or Infantry and 2½ rupees for every troop of Artillery. To both of these propositions, after enquiry, I gave my consent.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 39.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 7th, to Saturday, the 13th November 1847.

7th November 1847.—This being the *Dewalee* I was overwhelmed with offerings of sweetmeats, fruit, etc. The town and lines were brilliantly illuminated in the evening and the Sirdar caused the tank and canal in this garden to be decorated with rows of lamps. I observed that the houses of the Mussulman officers were as brilliantly lighted up as any.

8th November.—I had excused the regular Monday parade of the whole force on account of the ablution necessary after the *Dewalee.*

An European of the name of Patrick O'Leary surrendered himself to me as a deserter from the 3rd Company, 6th Battalion of Artillery. I placed him under surveillance. He has since been seriously ill. He states that he left Loodhianah on or about the 20th October.

The Barukzye Sirdars came to visit me. I showed them the specimens of coal which Mr. Sub-Assistant Surgeon Thompson had procured from Kohat and its neighbourhood: on seeing the specimens they said that there were quantities of it in that part of the country.

9th November.—The regiments paraded on their respective grounds. The Governor came in the morning.

10th November.—Rode round the city in the morning; saw a number of people collected at a spot, a short distance from the Yakka Toot Gate and heard afterwards that smoke had commenced issuing from the ground at that place. Found the Sirdar awaiting my return.

In the course of the day he sent me a number of purwannahs that he had received from the Durbar on the subject of the debts of Sirdars Sultan Mahomed Khan and Syud Mahomed Khan to Government, the former owing 10,000 rupees and the latter 14,000, for money borrowed. The Durbar has several times directed that portions of their jageers should be resumed until the debts be paid. I referred to the office and found that Major Lawrence had, a short time ago, written strongly on the subject to the Sirdars, so I forwarded copies of his letters with letters of my own to them recommending them to settle the debts in question with as little delay as possible. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan replied that he had repaid 4,000 of his 10,000

and that Major Lawrence had said that on reaching Lahore he would try and make some arrangement to relieve him from the payment of the other 6,000. I have written to Major Lawrence to enquire into the truth of this statement. From Syud Mahomed Khan I have as yet received no answer. He, I am told, undertook to pay in two months and the time has elapsed. Unless he makes some satisfactory arrangement I shall send for him and insist on his doing so. I hear he disputes the full extent of the claim.

With regard to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, I think it hardly fair to press him and talk of confiscating his jageer, when he with a force of 2,000 men is under summons for service.

11th November 1847.—The regiments paraded on their respective grounds. I visited the Infantry and Artillery parades, found Colonel Rutton Singh manœuvring a brigade of three regiments, namely, his own (Seikhs), Colonel Maun Singh's (Poorbeahs) and Meer Jung Ali's (Mussulmans). He handled them very creditably, but all the movements were rather slowly performed.

I then passed on to Colonel Holmes' Regiments, one of which, Subhan Khan's Mussulman Regiment, I found distributed in squads and practising the English Manual and Platoon.

Went to the spot where the smoke is said to issue from the ground. There was none visible, but putting my hand into the crevice I found the heat very great.

12th November.—Rode to the Momund villages of Lundee and Bahadoor, the former the residence of Mahomed Khan, Urbob, who is building a new house in it.

The whole of the country about these villages is beautifully cultivated.

Rupees 2,12,000 having arrived from Lahore in specie, Hoondies and Tunkhwahs, for the payment of the troops, the rupees, amounting to one lakh and six thousand, were this day counted and placed in the Treasury.

The late Superintendent of the Fort, who is in irons on a charge of peculation, being reported by Mr. Thompson as seriously ill of dysentery, I consented to his irons being removed for a few days, Durbarah Singh, Ijarahdar, being security for his not attempting to escape.

13th November 1847.—Rode through the Fort of Jumrood; the distance is called 7 *koss,* but I should not reckon it above ten miles. It lies west by south from Peshawur and is about two miles and a half from the upper or northernmost entrance of the Khyber Pass. The Fort has, I fancy, been previously described; it is now undergoing repairs, and the miserable hovels and holes in which the garrison formerly lived are being replaced by well-built rows of lines, the roofs of which form a convenient platform rather lower than the barbette of the defences. There are only three guns in the Fort.

On my way to the Fort I found no men at all in two of the Chokees on the road and only seven men in a third. The care of this road is entrusted to the Khulleel Urbobs who enjoy considerable jageers for the purpose. I found out that it was properly Zereen Khan of Chittee Dheree, who should have provided them to-day and that on the line which I passed there ought to have been upwards of thirty men. On returning to Peshawur I sent for Zereen Khan and made him over to the Sirdar, with directions to fine him 500 rupees; this I afterwards reduced to 100 on the Urbobs solemnly promising that such an impropriety should not again occur, and if it did that his jageer should be held forfeited.

Found the Sirdar awaiting my return with a large budget of purwannahs from the Durbar, one of which directed that no rupees of a date prior to Sumbut '88 were to be received in revenue. The general remark on this was that there would not be found enough good new coin in the country to make up the amount of Government revenue. The immense quantity of defective and old coin is a great evil in this province.

I have released Nujjuf Khan, Khuttuck, for a few days on the security of Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan, Barukzye, to enable him to make arrangements for the payment of his debts to Government. If he fails to accomplish anything he will be again confined.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 40.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 14th, to Saturday, the 20th November 1847.

14th November 1847.—Rode into the town to see the site of a robbery that had taken place. The Jemadar's guard at the Cabulee Gate turned out only three men to present arms. The orders are distinct that until one watch of the day every man of the guard is to remain present. The Jemadar did not even know where his men were; this is the second instance of laxity that I have met with in the guards furnished by the Ramgoles. I gave the first man, a Jemadar, 20 days' extra duty on the same guard, the second, also a Jemadar, I ordered to be reduced to the rank of Havildar.

15th November.—General parade in the morning. I inspected the troops. After parade I inspected the troop of Horse Artillery under orders for service in Bunnoo. The guns, men and horses appeared in good order; the harness is all new.

16th November.—According to appointment the Barukzye Sirdars came in the morning with the Governor to consult on the route of the troops to Bunnoo *viâ* Kohat. My letter of the above date has put you in possession of the information gained on the occasion.

17th November.—The Sirdar came in the morning. I rather astounded him with the information that I had received orders to accompany the troops to Bunnoo, and he immediately proposed sending for Lieutenant Lumsden.

The regiments about to leave this are being paid before the others and they are also receiving their new clothing, which arrived from Lahore a few days ago.

The camels, properly belonging to the troops, have not arrived, and it will be necessary to take those which have brought the clothing.

Ramdass, Dufteree, brought a long list of complaints on the subject of the treatment the Kardars are said to be receiving at the hands of zemindars and Mullicks; these accounts may be true or not, but the object is chiefly to show how our system of extending favour and protection to the zemindars renders them insolent and unruly. I shall enquire

carefully into the cases and punish if I see reason and shall especially warn the Urbobs that if such improprieties are frequent it will be visited on them.

Ahyaudeen, Badshah, came to show a letter from Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, enquiring what officer had arrived at Peshawur and what force he had brought with him.

18th November 1847.—The Sirdar came in the morning and stayed during the whole day superintending the distribution of clothing to the men.

Mirza Muzhur Allee, Commandant of Artillery, told off for duty in Bunnoo, made some difficulty about the preparation of fuzes. He is said to know little about his duty in that way.

It being the day for the Urbobs of the various Tuppahs to present themselves, I had directed the Kardars to be present also, and then in their presence told the Urbobs plainly that if the theft of grain and violence to their servants complained of by the Kardars continued, they would be made answerable for it. I have caused the Mullicks of two villages to be called in, and in one case where they had allowed the cotton crops to be destroyed by cattle have put them in confinement.

A cold-blooded murder has occurred, committed by a man who found his niece sleeping with a servant; he was accompanied by the father of the girl, and the uncle at first said that he had himself strangled her and that the father did not participate; he has since declared in my presence that the father held one end of the cloth and he the other. The father has escaped, but the uncle was apprehended on the spot. I have ordered the culprit to be executed on Monday. I think in such a case I should be wrong to delay punishment. Had the murder been committed with a sword the man would have deserved death; but considering the state of society and the prejudices of his religion, I should have felt some compunction in ordering his execution, but his savagely following the girl into an inner room and there strangling her with a cloth makes his crime heavy, and Major Lawrence having proclaimed that blood must atone for blood, it seems to me just that when an individual has taken upon himself the office of executioner for an offence committed against himself, he should pay the penalty to the power in whom the right is really vested.

Prompt punishnent seems more especially necessary in this province where human life is so little regarded, and scarcely a day passes without serious cases of wounding being brought in.

19th November 1847.—The Bunnoo troops moved to the plain on the further side of the Wuzeeree Bagh.

Lieutenant Bowie arrived early in the morning.

It appearing to me that Mirza Muzhur Allee, the Commandant of Artillery ordered to Bunnoo, was a difficult man to deal with and not by any means intelligent, I ordered him to remain here and have put Lahourah Singh, Commandant, in command of the troop. Muzhur Allee made difficulties about preparing fuzes, etc., and I found it very difficult to get a direct answer from him. In case of any serious work I should have had no confidence in his intelligence; they say he is otherwise a good soldier.

Cheit Singh, Colonel of the Akal Regiment of Horse, marches with them; his promotion to the above rank has been for some time sanctioned by the Durbar, but has been in abeyance on account of his sickness. The Sirdar referred to me to know whether he should be enrolled in the Duftur as a Colonel, to which I gave my assent.

The Sirdar came in the evening to visit Lieutenant Bowie and brought General Elahee Buksh with the Artillery officers to pay their respects to him.

The Sirdar sent me a number of purwannahs received from Lahore for perusal. The orders on the subject of the *Meerbahree* are still obscure. In the agreement written by the contractors five rivers are mentioned, namely, the Ravee, Chenab, Jelum, Attock and Lundai, while in the purwannah accompanying it only the four first rivers are mentioned and those taking passage-money on any smaller rivers are threatened with penalties. A former purwannah said from the Beas to the Attock. The *Meerbahree* is not taken on the Lundai, at present, Major Lawrence having forbidden it.

This was the first day of the *Ead-ul-Kurban* and a salute of guns was fired with my sanction on the occasion, such having always been the custom.

20th November 1847.—The Bunnoo troops marched to Budber, where they halt to-morrow, Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan having reported that one day's more work would improve the Kohat Pass, and that if the force halted at the foot of the Pass they would be pressed for water.

This being the second day of the *Ead*, a fair was held near the Fort. Everything went off quietly and when I rode to it at about four o'clock, the people were all returning.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 41.—Political Diary of Lieutenant H. B. Lumsden, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 21st, to Saturday, the 27th November 1847.

21st November 1847.—No business transacted.

22nd November.—Occupied all day in making arrangements preparatory to my departure for Peshawur.

I have ordered the Detachment of Ghorechurras on duty with my camp to accompany me to Peshawur, having no further need for their services and finding it inconvenient to provide forage for so many horses.

23rd November.—Leaving my camp standing at Ismaila, at 5 A.M., I rode in to Peshawur, arriving about 11, just in time to see Lieutenant Taylor before he started to join the Bunnoo force, accompanied by Yehyia Khan, son of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan.

24th November.—Visited the Artillery parade grounds and saw General Elahee Buksh manœuvre a troop of Horse Artillery in a very business-like style. On our way home Lieutenant Bowie and I took a look at the preparations making in the Gor Khuttree for casting the new Horse Artillery guns ordered to be cast here: the work is progressing, though it will be some days before the casting can take place.

25th November.—I forgot to mention that Colonel Ameer Khan's Regiment of Nujeebs received their pay yesterday. Three troops of Artillery have also been paid to-day.

Rode through the town, accompanied by Lieutenant Bowie, and found all the police at their posts and everything orderly and clean.

The usual Durbar for the Urbobs was held during the forenoon. Many of them complained that the zemindars refuse to pay what is justly due to them. I have told them to prove a clear case against any one and the delinquent shall be punished, but that if a case of extortion is proved against an Urbob he shall likewise have his deserts.

26th November 1847.—The company of Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment on duty with the Governor and three troops of Dragoons were paid in the morning.

I have ordered the company of Nujeebs on duty with my camp in Eusufzye to be relieved by a Ramgole company, the relief to take charge of the pay for Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment and a Dufteree to accompany and disburse the pay.

Lieutenant Bowie and I also paid a visit to the wounded men now in hospital. I am happy to say the poor fellows are doing as well as could be expected. They appeared pleased at my taking notice of them.

27th November.—Rain commenced to fall during the night and has continued all day, much to the delight of the zemindars.

I intimated to the Sirdar my intention of returning to Eusufzye on Monday morning, a move which the old gentleman does not at all advise, but there is nothing here which he cannot do well for the present, whereas the new arrangements in Eusufzye require watching to prevent the Khans from playing tricks.

H. B. LUMSDEN, Lieut.,
Assistant Resident.

No. 42.—Political Diary of Lieutenant H. B. Lumsden, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, on duty in Eusufzye, from Monday, the 29th November, to Sunday, the 5th December 1847.

29th November 1847.—Rain greater part of the morning. Towards morning I visited the Sirdar and started for Ismaila, arriving in camp about sunset. After a day's rain the road between Peshawur and Nowshera is impassable for camels or hackeries and very bad for horses.

30th November 1847.—Issued the proclamations from the Durbar regarding the consideration to be shown to men bringing waste lands under cultivation.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed has removed the sowars posted for the protection of the public road and has taken them with him to Kohat.

1st December.—Have not been able to go out for three days owing to a constant fall of rain.

A murder was perpetrated this morning by a man in Zedah, who suspecting his wife of infidelity watched her movements for some days and at last caught her intriguing with a neighbour: he bound the man to a *charpaie* and running after the woman cut her down with a *tulwar*, returning shortly afterwards and cutting the man's throat. It appears a rule among these Pathans that in these cases a man must first kill the woman before it is considered lawful to finish the adulterer. The murderer is in confinement.

2nd December.—The news-writer in Peshawur reports that the shroffs in the city decline to bring forward their cash for receiving (*sic*) till they have advice from Lahore and Umritsur of the rates charged there, the mint charges here being 10 per cent. I have written to Major Lawrence on the subject. All appears to be going on smoothly in Peshawur under the Sirdar's able management, though the old gentleman is rather diffident of his own powers.

The Mullicks of Khubbul have sent a Vakeel with Bahram Khan of Zedah requesting me to grant them an interview, which I at once agreed to. My camp being here has kept these gents in a state of fear till they are tired.

3rd December.—I have ordered each Moaffeedar holding a rent-free well to plant a *tallee* tree near it, on pain of the resumption of his grant, hoping in this way to gain a supply of timber without loss to Government or the ryots, as they all plant trees of some sort to shade the cattle working the well and may as well plant a useful sort of timber.

4th December.—Pay arrived this morning from Peshawur for the Detachment on duty with me and was disbursed to the Artillery and Sowars. The Muzbee Company being relieved at the same time returned to the capital.

All the Khans attended my Durbar according to custom, but have nothing to communicate besides the usual cry for an increase of their stipends.

This part of the country is all quiet and the people busy with the harvest and getting the *haree* crop in the ground.

5th December 1847.—This being Sunday no business was transacted beyond hearing petitions.

H. B. LUMSDEN, Lieut.,
Assistant Resident.

No. 43.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Wednesday, the 15th, to Saturday, the 18th December 1847.

15th December 1847.—Rode into Peshawur from Kohat, distance 40 miles; great preparations made for our passage through the Durrah, which on account of the Khyberries having come down in great numbers to the foot of the hills is now anything but safe. We, however, received no molestation, but a man was killed a short time after we had passed through. The inhabitants of the villages of Akhoor, Zeroon-Khail and others in this Durrah, which is the only portal to Kohat, are independent, pay no revenue and receive an allowance from the possessors of Kohat for free passage. I reached Peshawur at about 4½ o'clock. The Sirdar came the same evening.

16th December.—Sirdar came in the morning; some muskets, ammunition and gun-metal arrived from Lahore.

Sirdar Golab Singh has received charge of the whole of the rivers Attock and Lundai in the matter of *Meerbahree.* He has occupied the ferries on the latter river, 10 in number, by placing Lallah Salamut Rae, with two writers under him, at Nowshera, and a sergeant and sepoy at each ferry to collect the tolls and render account every four days to the Lallah, who will at the end of 15 days render account to the Sirdar.

He has entrusted the ferry at Attock to the *Aieenee* Moonshee, who was placed there to prevent people crossing to the Punjab without *rahdarees*, and he is to have a couple of sepoys to help him. For the ferries above Attock, amounting to four, the arrangement is similar to that

made for the Lundai, a writer being placed at Oondh with orders to report to the man at Attock, while for the ferries below Attock down to the boundaries of Mooltan, he proposes to send a company of Infantry under an intelligent officer to post the writers and people at the various ferries and establish the custom by the imposing presence of Government troops. All these arrangements I have agreed to as the best that could be made under the circumstances; no one is willing as yet to undertake the contract, and the great thing is by a careful arrangement to obtain some correct estimate of the probable produce of each ferry.

17th December 1847.—Sirdar came in the morning, bringing a number of papers with him. The first case produced referred to the camels of the *Zumboor Khanah.* It appears that some time back the Durbar called for an account of the number of camels that had died in the *Zumboor Khanah.* Jye Singh, the Commandant, and his Moonshee sent in an account of 50. On this report being received by the Durbar an order was issued directing all the *Zumboorchees* who had lost their camels to be dismissed and their *Zumboors* to be sent into store. On the Sirdar proceeding to carry this into effect, it appeared that not above 16 camels were actually required to complete the number and therefore that it would only be necessary to dismiss that number of men. I do not understand this matter yet. It appears, however, that when the *Zumboor Khanah* was in Lahore there were in it 86 camels for the *Zumboors* and 12 for the Magazine, while the actual number of *Zumboors* was only 52; that out of this total of 98 camels 50 have actually died, leaving 48 for duty, 12 of which belong to the Magazine, and 36 to the *Zumboors,* which would leave 16 dismounted. It did not, however, appear to me that it was according to regulations to have extra camels in the *Zumboor Khanah,* and the explanations given were not satisfactory, and I am inclined to think that the 34 extra camels at one time existing in the *Zumboor Khanah* were weak and disabled ones whose places had been supplied though still kept on the rolls, and that they have now been put in to fill up and save men from dismissal. I shall enquire into this and report the result to you.

18th December.—Colonel Kullan Singh (*sic*) brought the Durbar purwannah in the case of Mirza Muzhur Allee, Commandant of Artillery, by the wording of which it would appear that it had been reported that the Commandant had raised difficulties with the object of getting

off the duty of accompanying the force, which was far from the case, and I believe his being relieved was in itself a great punishment to the man, who is reported to be an excellent soldier, though not a very brilliant Artillery-man.

The Sirdar requested to know what arrangement was to be made to prevent disturbances in burying the *tazeahs*. A purwannah had been previously received from the Durbar forbidding the cries of "Dum-i-chuhar yar" and "Dum-i-punjtun," the watchwords of dissension. I enquired what had been the arrangements in Avitabile's time and found that no *tazeahs* were allowed in the city, and if parties carried standards on horses from one house to another they were not allowed to do so openly in the streets. The Mussulmans of the regiments were allowed to carry about and bring *tazeahs* outside the town, accompanied by a company of Infantry. I directed that these old rules should be strictly adhered to and caused proclamation to be made to that effect, and everything has since passed off well and without the slightest disturbance.

Mirza Hussein Allee brought Shere Allee Khan, Kazulbash, who has just arrived from Cabul, driven thence, according to his own account, by the persecutions of the Ameer, consequent on a letter addressed to him from Jan Fishan Khan having been found on the person of a *kassid* who died at Jellalabad, in which he told Shere Allee Khan that the English were certainly coming to Cabul and to be ready to join them. Major Lawrence has, I believe, already investigated this matter and ascertained that Jan Fishan Khan was not the writer of the letter in question. Shere Allee Khan presented a nuzzur which I did not receive, and dismissed him with slight notice.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, Lieut.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 44.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from the 19th to the 25th of December 1847.

19th December 1847.—I heard from Lieutenant Edwardes from Bunnoo.

One Abul Kasim, son of Shah Abbas, brother of Shah Shoojah, came to pay his respects; he had just arrived from Cabul, having been

driven out of that country, he states, by the persecutions of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan.

Obtained a clue to the detection of the parties concerned in the great robbery in the city and sent off the Thanadar with a party of his men to apprehend them.

20th December 1847.—The Sirdar came in the morning bringing a number of purwannahs, one to the effect that the Mussulmans were not to be hindered in calling the *Azan*, another directing the speedy sale of salt by parties who have the article on hand, a third ordering Dhara Singh's quota of horse to be sent to Lahore, a fourth mentioning that Major Napier had been appointed Superintendent of Public Works in the Punjab, a fifth ordering the Khurreef payments to be realised from the Kardars by the end of the present month of *Poh*.

Received intelligence from the thief-taking party to the effect that they had secured one of the robbers, who had confessed and implicated another man, a resident in the Doabah. I immediately wrote to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan directing his apprehension.

General parade, which we attended.

Two men, camp-followers of the Khoolah Fauj, were murdered near the village of Dullozye by the Afreedees, who carried off the camels they were tending. I have summoned the Mullicks of the three neighbouring villages to institute an enquiry into the matter.

21st December.—The Naib, Mahomed Shereef Khan, who has been ill for some time, died in the course of the night; he received a pension from our Government of 400 rupees per mensen which lapses. He has left three sons: one, the eldest, Rudur Khan, is about 29 years of age. Naib Shereef, as he was commonly called, was sincerely attached to our interests and his death deprives the British Government of a well-wisher in these parts.

22nd December.—The Sirdar came in the morning.

I inspected Colonel Jye Singh's *Zumboor Khanah.* I have before alluded to this case. The Durbar called upon him or Sirdar Kanh Singh for an account of the number of camels that had died in the *Zumboor Khanah.* Jye Singh and his Moonshee sent in a statement showing that fifty had died, in answer to which an order came

directing that all the dismounted men were to be dismissed and their *zumboors* put into the Fort; proceeding to carry this into execution the Sirdar found that there were only 12 men actually dismounted. It then appeared on enquiry that Jye Singh had had at one time as many as 34 extra camels, that 50 had actually died, but that he still retained 34 of sorts. This I found to be the case on inspection, but considered 6 of them, that had just been put in to fill up, as totally unfit for work, some of them being scarce able to stagger under the weight of the *zumboorahs*, and therefore directed them to be made over to the magazine and the riders whose own camels had died some time before to be dismissed; also a man whose camel has died within the last ten days, as the order appears to me to be prospective. In the case of two men who were bad characters, but had not lost their camels, I directed them to be dismissed and retained two men of good character and of very long standing. These men are, most of them, about five months in arrear, but as the Government demands from them the price of the necklaces and *boodkees* given by Jowahir Singh and Heerah Singh, they are many of them brought in debtors on the whole account. Jye Singh was justified in saying that 50 of his camels had died, not in saying that he required that number to fill up; he might fairly have indented for 25.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan sent in the second thief, who at first denied all knowledge of the matter, but has since confessed property to the amount of 16,000 rupees was stolen. It remains to be seen what will be recovered. The townspeople and others seem as much pleased as I am at the discovery of the robbers, which was scarcely to be hoped for.

23rd December 1847.—Lieutenant Lumsden came in from Khuttuck. The Urbobs of the Tuppahs came to pay their respects; in the course of conversation they said that a money settlement would be a great blessing to the country and save much ill-feeling and strife.

24th December.—Nothing of importance occurred. Lieutenant Robinson of the Huzara Survey came in from Shamshabad.

25th December.—It being Christmas Day, the Sirdar sent a large *zeafut* of sweetmeats. The parades were excused for the same reason.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, Lieut.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 45.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 26th December 1847, to Saturday, the 1st of January 1848.

26th December 1847.—Went with Lieutenant Robinson to the Gor Khuttree to visit the Sirdar; saw the preparations making for casting two guns. The process is simple but ingenious: the first step in the arrangement is the formation of a mud model of the future gun on a round stick or pole. This mould is beautifully shaped and rounded and made exactly the requisite form and size. On this again the mud composition of the mould is laid to a thickness of about half a foot; this is allowed to dry and the stick in the centre of the model is then withdrawn and the model immediately crumbles to pieces inside the mould; the latter is then hardened by fire to the consistency of brick, and into this the metal is run, a round bar of iron covered with a coating of the composition being first suspended in the centre of the mould to form the bore. Thus the whole gun, trunnions and all, is run off at once and turned out of the mould nearly fit for use.

Lieutenant Lumsden left for Khuttuck.

I received a book of English Drill translated into Hindustani, which I made over to the Sirdar.

27th December.—Sirdar Kanh Singh came with the 19 men of the *Zumboor Khanah*, who have been dismissed. I heard all their accounts in their presence. I ordered that those to whom money was due from the Government should be paid up and that those (the majority) who were brought in debtors to Government, albeit in arrear four months, should make any petition they wished on their arrival at Lahore; they have been mulcted for the *boodkess* and *kunthas* issued in Heerah Singh's and Jowahir Singh's time.

Quazee Gholam Kader came from Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan to represent the case of the village of Addozye, the inhabitants of which, having written an agreement before Major Lawrence to pay their revenue for the future, to forfeit 400 rupees for every murder committed within their limits and to refrain from injuring the neighbouring village of Muttunee by cutting off its water, have violated these three compacts and are now in an unmanageable state, affording no

hope of the Khurreef revenue being realised from them. The object of the Quazee's mission was to beg for the assistance of some Government troops to help to coerce the village, the idea being that the very name of the Government troops accompanying the force would be sufficient to bring them to reason. I told him the matter should be taken into consideration. Addozye is so far in a rebellious state that its neighbourhood is not safe for our ryots.

28th December 1847.—Accompanied Lieutenant Bowie in the morning to inspect Tarah Singh's and Futteh Khan's troops of Horse Artillery; the horses are for the most part in good condition, but the bullocks are miserably thin and some so small and decrepit as to be utterly useless. There are also one or two horses in each troop totally unfit for further service. I have requested Lieutenant Bowie to pick out those horses and bullocks which he deems useless, when I will inspect and report upon them with a view to their immediate sale; the loss to Government by the amount of useless cattle at present feeding at its expense must be very great.

Sirdars Golab Singh, Sultan Mahomed Khan, and Peer Mahomed Khan came in the evening. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan's visit referred chiefly to his debt of 6,000 rupees to Government, which, in consideration of the expenses he had been put to, he hoped he might be allowed to pay on the collection of the Rubbee crop. I told him that I would write to you on the subject.

I am enquiring into the rights of the case with regard to the division of jageer and service between the three brothers and will report the result.

29th December.—Mirza Muzhur Allee took his leave. I gave him a note to Major Lawrence.

I heard the case of the Killadar of Jumrood, Jowallah Sahaie, and confirmed the Sirdar's previous decision, he having fined the Killadar 120 rupees for the general negligence of his garrison on the occasion of Lieutenant Bowie's visiting the Fort a short time ago.

I wrote to Major Lawrence on the subject of the village of Addozye before mentioned.

30th December.—Received a letter from Major G. Lawrence on the subject of reinforcing the Jumrood Fort and other matters.

Shahzada Allee Ahmed, son of Shah Kamran of Herat, who has been for some time staying with Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, is about to proceed to Kandahar *viâ* Shikarpore. I gave him a *rahdaree* and a letter to Lieutenant Edwardes.

31st December 1847.—The Sirdar came in the morning. I told him to send a company of Regulars to Jumrood, which has since been done.

Mirza Muzhur Allee left for Lahore.

The Sirdar came bringing a number of Government purwannahs.

The Sirdar proposed sending two *Zumboors* to each of the forts instead of putting the whole 19 into the fort here. I approved.

Sirdar Syud Mahomed Khan came by appointment to consult about the payment of his debts to Government and the real extent of his liabilities for service. Out of the 14,000 rupees claimed he solemnly denies the validity of the demand for half the amount, while of the other 7,000 rupees he states he has paid 5,330, and therefore that he has only 1,670 rupees to make good. I have called for his receipt for the above sums, which he professes to have in his possession.

1st January 1848.—Received a letter from Lieutenant Lumsden to the effect that he intended sending me in some intelligent Guides.

The Sirdar went out to Hushtnuggur to inspect the Fort.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

Peshawur Political Diaries, 1848.

Note.—Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent, Governor-General, North-West Frontier at Peshawar, returned from Lahore on the 19th of January 1848, relieving Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, who was in charge at Peshawur during Major Lawrence's absence.

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No. 1.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 2nd, to Saturday, the 8th January 1848.

2nd January 1848.—Nothing of importance occurred.

3rd January.—The Sirdar came in the morning. He reported the Doabah Fort, which he had been to visit the day before, to be in good order, and also said that there had sprung up quite a town around and under it, nearly 200 houses of Khuttrees having already domesticated themselves there. These new settlers had besought him to give them a town wall to protect them against thieves, who appear to abound in those parts. In case of the settlement being protected by a wall they were of opinion that numbers more of the Hindus of the neighbouring hills would come and settle in the place. The estimated expense of the wall is about 1,100 rupees, and the Sirdar proposed allowing them 500 from Government and letting them make up the rest themselves, to which I agreed, the establishment of such a colony being likely to prove beneficial to the country in every way.

There have been several cases of men being found selling beef lately, and in one a quantity of that treasonable article was found in a butcher's shop in the city. I mean to sanction severe punishment in this case and have not much pity for the parties. They have had full warning; they have been allowed to call their *Azan*, and mutton is at six pice the seer, and yet from mere vice they must go and traffic in the forbidden food and endanger the present universal harmony for no possible advantage to themselves.

4th January.—Sirdar Syud Mahomed Khan, Barukzye, came to discuss his debts and his quarrel with his brother.

5th January.—The pay of the Ghorechurras lately received from Lahore is being disbursed. These men do not receive extra batta for being west of the Indus, as the other troops do.

6th January.—Received a complaint from the Adjutant sent to establish the ferries on the Indus, to the effect that the inhabitants of the village of Jhund, near the Khooshalgurh ferry, declined receiving the Government toll-takers or paying the fares.

Quazee Gholam Kader and a son of Sultan Mohamed Khan came to discuss the point at issue between his father and Syud Mahomed Khan. I shall say nothing about this case at present as I have not yet thoroughly understood it myself. I heard from them that Sirdar Sultan Mahomed's son, Ibrahim Khan, who had been detained at Lahore, had now been allowed to join his father who, they said, was greatly delighted at the intelligence.

7th January 1848.--Rode to the city in the morning to see and settle a quarrel about a drain between two householders. It is really quite extraordinary how every little thing is now referred to the European officer, and no man is pleased unless his case is decided by him, while his lightest word is as absolute law as ever was Avitabile's during his reign of terror.

Jaffer Khan of Khuttuck came to pay his respects, having been summoned by the Sirdar on account of the recusancy of the dwellers near the Khooshalgurh ferry on his side of the river. He said that the man chiefly in fault was a Mullick of Pindee Ghebee, named Allyar Khan, to whom I accordingly addressed a purwannah on the subject. I also wrote to Lieutenant Nicholson begging him to lend any assistance in his power to enforce the Government arrangement.

Heard from Lieutenant Lumsden from Moghul Khel, who stated that murders were taking place daily among the Eusufzyes.

The Governor came in the evening.

Mahomed Ameer Khan, Urbob of the Khulleel Tuppah, came to report that the tanks in the Fort of Jumrood had been filled. These tanks are supplied by water from the Khyber, and the Khyberries occasionally cut it off, though they receive a handsome allowance yearly for the accommodation; they stopped the water some days ago, and I was obliged to send the Urbob to have it turned on.

8th January.—Colonel Alla Singh, commanding a troop of Horse Artillery, son of the Governor, has in the course of three months saved the Government the extraordinary amount of 120 *kanals* of Joar and Mukkee fodder amounting to about 300 rupees, merely by keeping a strict account of the fodder not required for sick and absent horses. Each troop receives a *tunkhwah* on the Kardar every 15 days for the full number of horses. By careless troop officers the whole is called in

and the excess caused by sick or absent horses is either wasted or improperly made use of for private purposes. Alla Singh has shown how greatly the Government must suffer in the course of the year by this slovenly arrangement. I now propose establishing a general godown for the whole 15 days' supply of the six troops; the commanders of troops to indent on it for their daily supply for the exact number of horses on feed and whatever may be left to be carried to the next fortnight's account; the supply to be brought in by the hackeries of each troop successively instead of each troop bringing in its own, which causes much wear and tear to the carts and bullocks. This plan was suggested by Lieutenant Bowie. I have given Colonel Alla Singh great credit for his zeal and care in proving how much may be saved by a better arrangement.

The arrangements for the transmission of sepoys' family remittances by orders on the Government *Petee* have given much satisfaction. Could the accommodation be extended to the transmission of the savings of the Poorbeahs and Hindustanis to their families in our Provinces, it would be considered a great boon by them and lay them under obligation to our Government. A Colonel of a regiment at this station has positively no safe means of sending money to his family. On his expressing a hope that eventually we should extend our good offices to the establishment of some system with the above object, I said that I feared it would be difficult as I knew that it was a hard matter to manage for our own army. His reply was "This army and your own are all one now," an unimportant remark, but I think anything that tends quietly to such an amalgamation and the encouragement of a friendly feeling towards us among so large a portion of the members of the army is worthy of adoption, if feasible.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

No. 2.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant to the Resident, Lahore, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 9th, to Saturday, the 15th of January 1848.

9th January 1848.—Heard from Major G. Lawrence from Jelum.

10th January 1848.—Rode with Lieutenant Bowie to the Fort to inspect the cells of the life-prisoners and other things; found them tolerably clean, but very confined and ill-ventilated.

We then inspected the Magazine, and finding a considerable number of the ammunition boxes open and too full to be closed, while others were only half-filled, I directed a more equal distribution of the stores and that the boxes should be closed from the outward air at any rate.

The Governor came bringing all the officers of the regiment to pay their respects. I expressed to them my satisfaction with their conduct, saying that when Major Lawrence left I thought it not impossible but that some difficulty might occur, but that I was happy to say that through their good conduct and assistance everything had gone well. The Sirdar took the words out of my mouth and rendered them into familiar Goormookhie, and the Officers in reply were profuse in their protestations of being thoroughly contented and happy, which I believe to be true.

At the Sirdar's suggestion I issued a circular purwannah to the Urbobs of the Tuppahs, bidding them produce the Kardars' receipts for all the revenue of their villages by the end of the month of *Poh.*

Lieutenant Edwardes having written from Bunnoo for some houses of silk-spinners, I on this day summoned some of the men to see what they thought of the plan. I thought they seemed inclined to go, as on account of the scarcity of mulberry trees in these parts there is little chance of their being able to revive the trade quickly here. The eggs of the moth are very scarce at present and must be procured from the neighbourhood of the Sufaid Koh, Cabul or Cashmere. The parties stipulate for an advance to enable them to set themselves up properly at Bunnoo.

11th January.—Quazee Gholam Kader brought Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan's answer to his brother Syed Mahomed Khan's statements.

12th January.—The new Paymaster, Dewan Luchmun Pershad, is entering on his duties, having taken accounts from Mul Chund, Bukshee Bhuggut Ram's brother, who has hitherto paid the Peshawur Troops. The result was as follows – The whole balance unaccounted

for appears to be Rs. 37,091-4-0 up to the 1st of *Magh*, the present month. Of this Mul Chund says that Rs. 28,265-13-0 have been accounted for in Bukshee Bhuggut Ram's accounts up to the end of the month of *Sawun*. Rupees 6,222-14-0 he has still by him, being the balance of unclaimed pay for the months of *Bysakh* and *Jeit*, also Rs. 1,324-12-0 on the same account for the months of *Har* and *Sawun*, also, Rs. 914-5-0 surplus balance of the amount allowed by Government for the months of *Bhadoon* and *Asoo*, also *Kuserat* of money paid for those months, Rs. 363-8-0. Thus Mul Chund holds Rs. 8,825-7-0 to be made over to Luchmun Pershad on receiving instructions from his brother, while the remaining Rs. 28,265-13-0 he declares has already been accounted for in his brother's accounts. This matter will be easily settled by a reference to Lahore.

I inspected 16 Artillery horses and 7 Yaboos and 2 bullocks selected by Lieutenant Bowie from four of the Artillery troops as totally unfit for service, as they certainly were; some were so bad that it was only the knowledge that such a proceeding would be distasteful to the Hindus which prevented me from ordering them to be shot on the spot. These animals were supposed to be receiving 5 seers of grain a day, together with *bhoosah*, servants, and other expenses, and many cf them could not have done their part in dragging a gun ten yards. I condemned the whole lot, ordering six of the least bad horses to be used as grass-tattoos and the rest to be sold by auction, which has since been done.

13th January 1848.—The Governor came with some Government purwannahs: one to the effect that the wives and families of fugitive offenders were not to be molested.

Lieutenant Bowie proved four of the newly-cast guns with two rounds of 4 lbs. of powder each; they stood the test well.

14th January.—Rode with Lieutenant Bowie to Sirdar Kahn Singh's lines to see the site of a robbery; thence to the Fort to inspect the Magazine, where we found everything nicely arranged—a great improvement since our last visit.

The last *derah* of the Ghorechurrahs paid to-day.

Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan has paid me 1,640 rupees, to be forwarded to Bunnoo for his horsemen, at present on duty with Lieutenant Edwardes. Murders and robberies are very frequent in this Sirdar's jageer. I have several times spoken to him about it.

Inspected some bullocks of Muzhur Allee's troop and condemned five of them.

15th January 1848.—I sent my tents out to Lundee, the chief village of the Momund Tuppah. I have for some time received directions from Major Lawrence to commence enquiries into the revenue arrangements of this district, but have been so thoroughly employed here that I have been able to do very little in the matter, and my chief object in moving out is to be ready to commence when Major Lawrence takes up the duties here. I rode out to my tents after breakfast and inspected the ground disputed between Mullick Meeroo and Shaikh Izzut, a case that has cost some trouble and is not settled yet. I spoke to Mahomed Khan, Urbob, on the subject of the murders that are so frequently occurring, generally caused by the previous intrigues of the victims, but very often on mere suspicion of their existence, and while it was certainly necessary that Government should punish the offenders to protect the lives of others, still as long as every man considered himself bound to avenge his own injury by the instant and condign punishment of his enemy, there was little hope of improvement or a stop being put to outrage. I therefore proposed that a jirga of all the influential men of the districts subject to Peshawur should be summoned and that they should fix upon some severe punishment, to be awarded by Government, for both parties detected in an intrigue, a punishment severe enough to alarm and deter others and satisfy the injured party, or I said let every case of the kind be referred to a jirga in the Tuppah, let them fix their own punishment and refer it to Government for confirmation, and let every man understand that the injury inflicted on him would be duly punished, but that any one taking the law into his own hands would be summarily dealt with. Mahomed Khan, who is a sensible man, seemed to think the thing feasible and certainly much required. Were this accomplished, similar jirgas might be assembled to settle old blood feuds by fines or otherwise and enable society to start afresh on a new footing which they are not disinclined to do.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant to Resident.

P. S.—I understand that the Sirdars and officers, who are partial to wine, are much inconvenienced by the present contract system, which

makes it unlawful for them to have the spirit they require for home consumption made in their own houses and under their own superintendence as was formerly their custom: they are now quite in the power of the distillers, who make the spirit very strong and adulterate it with intoxicating drugs. It would be considered a boon could an arrangement be made by which an officer or respectable man might be enabled to distill a certain quantity of liquor in his own house. I should think it might be managed by allowing the contracter to sell licenses for the private preparation of certain quantities, a man of his own attending the operation.

R. G. T.

CAMP LUNDEE:
January 17th, 1848.

No. 3.—Political Diary of Lieutenant R. G. Taylor, Assistant Resident and Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 16th, to Saturday, the 22nd January 1848.

16th January 1848.—Rode into the station to breakfast. The Governor came and told me that he had received a letter from Major Lawrence directing him not to release Nujjuf Khan, Khuttuck, as besides his liabilities to Government on account of revenue he was under suspicion of being concerned in a murder case.

Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan has made over to me the sum of Rs. 1,639-5-0 to be forwarded to his son, Mahomed Alim Khan, in Bunnoo for his horsemen, at present on duty in that country, and I on this day gave him an order on Lieutenant Edwardes for the amount, to be sent by the hand of his own *cossid.*

17th January.—Camp Lundee. Employed all day in hearing cases and making enquiries into the revenue arrangements of this Tuppah.

18th January.—Camp Lundee. Heard in the evening from Major Lawrence to the effect that he intended reaching Peshawur next day; gave orders for his reception accordingly.

REYNELL G. TAYLOR, LIEUT.,
Assistant Resident.

19th January.—Marched yesterday from Nowshera into Peshawur being met at the village of Chumkunnee by Messrs. Taylor and Bowie,

the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, Povindeah, Sirdars Kahn Singh and Soorat Singh of the Ghorechurras, Sirdars Sultan Mahomed Khan and Syed Mahomed Khan, Barukzyes, with all the Urbobs and men of respectability.

We passed through the city and out by the Cabullee Gate; from this point to the cantonments of Ali Murdan Khan; the troops, Regular and Irregular, lined the road and saluted as we passed each regiment.

The crowd of spectators was great and I regret to say, in the pressure near the Lahore Gate, my elephant trod on a poor man and seriously injured him. I had him removed to our hospital, but I fear with little hopes of saving him.

I am happy to say that under Lieutenant Taylor's able arrangements all is peace and content in the city and neighbourhood.

20th January 1848.—Held yesterday a grand Durbar of all the officers, civil and military. Nuzzurs were presented, but I merely touched them, saying that I hoped soon to be able to tell them that the custom of nuzzur-giving was abolished.

I took this opportunity to express my approbation at the appearance of the troops and of their conduct during my absence, as reported to me by Lieutenant Taylor, more particularly noticing the soldier-like bearing and spirit evinced by the force under Colonel John Holmes on their march from this to Bunnoo.

21st January.—Drafts from the Troop drafts of the Horse Artillery recently broken up at Lahore arrived yesterday, consisting of 43 men and 29 horses and 10 without horses. On my arrival at Tope Manakialla I found this Detachment making very slow progress, 22 days from the capital. I gave them to understand that if they did not mend their pace and reach Peshawur shortly after myself, they would be punished; their Commandant, Futteh Sing, has not arrived.

Issued four months' pay to one *missul* of Ghorechurras in presence of Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea; one *missul* remains unpaid and the whole are still 6½ months in arrears.

The Regular and Ramgole Troops are paid up to 15th October. As yet I have not heard of any assets to meet their arrears having left Lahore: this should be seen to.

A shock of earthquake was felt at half-past 8 A.M. which lasted some seconds: a small portion of one of the city gates and the wall of the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur have been thrown down.

Last evening at a grand Durbar at the Governor's I presented him and Sirdar Bahadoor Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, with their dresses of honor, on their attaining the dignity of Bahadoors.

Lieutenants Taylor and Bowie accompanied me and we made the ceremony very imposing. I availed myself of the opportunity to point out to the officers that good and faithful services such as Golab and Kahn Singh's were not overlooked, be the officers ever so distant from the capital. A salute of 11 guns announced to the city the completion of the ceremony, and, as the old Sirdar said, struck terror into the hearts of the evil-disposed.

22nd January 1848.—Engaged with the Governor in revenue and military matters. I regret to say that nearly Rs. 1,20,000 of revenue is still due by contractors to Government. I have given them ten days to pay it up under penalty of imprisonment.

In several recent purwannahs from the Durbar to Sirdar Golab Singh, I observe that his title of "Bahadoor" is omitted: it would be well to enquire whether intentionally so or not.

Had a long visit from the Sirdars Sultan Mahomed and Peer Mahomed Khan, complimentary and congratulatory on my return. As usual, they were most ardent and eager in their professions of attachment and anxiety to render service to the British.

They mentioned that the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan had not left Cabul, but had sent his son Hyder Khan to Jellalabad.

Several *Kafilas* have recently arrived from Cabul by the river route.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 4.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 23rd, to Saturday, the 29th January 1848.

24th January 1848.—There being an annual fair held at Chumkunnee this day, I excused the usual grand parade of the troops.

Ordered a resallah and company of Regulars with half the Police force to attend the fair.

With Lieutenants Taylor and Bowie and General Elahee Buksh, Colonel Alla Singh and other officers visited the fair, at which were assembled at least from 15 to 20,000 people. Met the Governor and Barukzye Sirdars there: all went off quietly and well.

Lieutenant Bowie under instructions allotted the Artillery drafts and Horses recently arrived.

25th January 1848.—Transacted business with the Governor in revenue affairs.

Commenced taking the muster of the Ghorechurras with a view to pensioning and invaliding unfits.

Lieutenant Taylor, who came in from the Momund district to meet me, returned to his tents to prosecute the settlement of that quarter.

Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan claims a remission of nearly 5,000 rupees revenue on account of loss said to have accrued from the abolition of customs. I have directed the matter to be investigated.

26th January.—With Lieutenant Bowie inspected 115 bullocks of the Artillery reported by him unfit for draught. Of these 80 were received in November from the Kardar of Kutchie; they are totally unfit for the service and should be sold at the Kardar's loss; the rest are old and worn-out. I have ordered them to be sold by auction.

I had to reprimand Colonel Jey Singh's Artillery for not attending the parade.

Lieutenant Bowie reported a Golundaze of Commadant Futteh Khan's Artillery as guilty of gross insubordination towards his officer. I investigated the matter on the spot and sentenced the man to receive fifty lashes in front of the whole of the Artillery, and then to be dismissed the service.

At a visit Sirdar Syed Mahomed, Barukzye, paid me in reference to his contention with his brothers and his difficulties, he said he was quite willing to give up his jagheer to meet his debts, if I would out of it make him an allowance sufficient for his support.

27th January 1848.—The Governor was with me for some time on his return from the punishment parade which, at his suggestion, I made a general one.

Received instructions from the Resident to depute Lieutenant Taylor to join Lieutenant Edwardes at Bunnoo, there to remain for the next month or six weeks: have accordingly written him to come in and proceed with all convenient expedition. His absence will considerably retard the contemplated summary settlement of the province.

Lieutenant Lumsden writes from the Hill portion of the Khuttuck district that it is in a disturbed state, the Afreedees plundering at pleasure and the Khuttuckees being too weak to prevent them.

28th January.—The Governor was with me for some time discussing civil and military matters.

As it rained all day I postponed the muster of the Ghorechurras till Monday next.

With Lieutenant Bowie I inspected the Magazine in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur. Notwithstanding due intimation was given to the Storekeeper the previous evening of my intended visit, neither he nor his Moonshee were present. On enquiring I found that contrary to repeated orders they both reside in the city. I have consequently removed them from their situation and ordered them to Lahore. The Storekeeper, by name Bhaie Hurdial, it seems was one of the door-keepers of the Maharanee, sent to Peshawur on the reduction of the establishment.

Sirdar Peer Mohomed Khan paid me a visit to take leave on his return to Hushtnugger.

I had a visit from Shere Allee Khan, Jewanshere, a Cabul refugee, who is desirous of being pensioned for the services he says he rendered the late Shah Shoojah and the British. I told him he might send in his case, but that I was quite sure he had nothing to expect, inasmuch as, in our hour of need, neither he nor any of his clan rendered any service.

29th January.—Colonel Ruttun Singh, Maun, attended with the reports of the Army, the Sirdar having caught cold from coming out yesterday.

I find that the Regular Troops effective present do not exceed 4,300 men, whereas the quota for Peshawur is 10,000. Exclusive of Ramgoles in the Forts, there are about 1,600 present effective and 850 Ghorechurras. I hope the troop of Horse Artillery, regiment of Cavalry and three of Infantry detached to Bunnoo will be returned ere long, or arrangements made for supplying their place, as it is most desirable that I should have at least 2,000 men available at all times to move at the shortest notice.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 21st, but of no importance

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 5.--Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 30th January, to Saturday, the 5th February 1848.

30th January 1848.—Heavy rain all yesterday and last night.

The Governor, I regret to say, continues indisposed. Mr. Thompson visited him.

I have excused the grand parade for to-morrow in consequence of the state of the weather and ground.

31st January.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the force.

I recommenced the muster of the Ghorechurras: the men do not seem to take kindly to the invaliding. I fancy they fear there is little certainty in their being regularly paid. I have told Sirdar Kahn Singh to disabuse their minds of this impression.

The Governor paid me an evening visit and talked of applying in six weeks for leave to visit his home, to marry his son, young Lena Singh. I advised him to depute Colonel Alla Singh if it could be done by him; he replied he would write and enquire; the old gentleman is better, but looks ill.

1st February.—Transacted business with the Governor and mustered 3 *missuls* of Ghorechurras.

Colonel Dhun Raj of Ramgoles, noted in my Diary of 9th August as having proceeded on leave, afterwards much to my regret sent in his resignation, consequent on the reduction of his allowances : having returned and expressed his wish to resume his post, in consideration of his previous good conduct and unblemished character, at a time when all around him were more or less tainted, I have restored him to the command he held with so much credit to himself and satisfaction to those under him.

Lieutenant Taylor was to have started for Bunnoo to-day, but from a communication of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed to the effect that the Kohat Pass was unsafe just now, his march is postponed for three days.

By letter from Lieutenant Edwardes we learn of an attempt on his life having ended in the death of the assassin.

Lieutenant Lumsden arrived from the Khuttuk hills and fully confirms, I regret to say, his previous account of their disturbed state and of the general poverty of the country; so great is it that supplies for 100 men in many parts were not procurable and had to be brought down the Indus from Attock.

This being a Mahomedan festival there was no business transacted ; all the people were out pleasuring.

3rd February 1848.—Held my weekly Durbar of the Urbobs and gentry of the city

Mr. Thompson, Officiating Apothecary, proceeds to-morrow towards Lahore and Agra in anticipation of the two months' leave for which he has applied.

An intercepted letter with the seal of Ameenoolah Khan, Chumkunnee, to Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan, of a treasonable nature, has been brought to me: it professes to give the feelings of the people of Peshawur and of the Sikh troops as being inimical to the British, and that an invasion would be attended with success. Ameenoolah Khan is a nephew of Kumurooddeen Khan of Chumkunnee, the ex-custodian of the Attock road, with whom he has long been at enmity, and it strikes me that the letter is a forgery to get the parties named in it into disgrace I am quietly trying to ascertain the point.

The Governor paid me a visit and on my showing him the intercepted letter coincides with me in opinion.

Durreah Khan of Adyzye, who escaped from Govindghur, accompanies Lieutenant Taylor to the limits of Kohat. He says if we are

desirous of keeping the road to Bunnoo open, it will be necessary to take the Afreedees of that quarter into pay.

4th February 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the report of the army and the proceedings of a court-martial, assembled by orders of Sirdar Goolab Singh, to try a Havildar of the Infantry for being drunk on duty and loading his musket for the purpose of shooting a Jemadar.

The prisoner was found guilty, sentenced to be dismissed the service, receiving 24 lashes on his back in front of the troops paraded for the purpose, which sentence I have confirmed.

Lieutenant Taylor marched this evening towards Bunnoo; Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan with one of his sons accompanied him; the Sirdar returns from Kohat, the son proceeding.

5th February.—A rumour is rife through the city that Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan has been assassinated by his nephew, Shumshooddeen Khan. I have no particulars.

Lieutenant Edwardes writes me that he hears the Vuzeerees, aided by a son of the Ameer of Cabool, meditate an inroad on Bunnoo, and that Sirdar Sultan Mahomed's son, in command of the Afghan contingent, is in communication with the enemy. I replied that I believed the Afghans had too much to do at home to think of such an invasion, and that I was sure they were more in fear of us than we need be of them.

The troops are now in arrears four months and I have not heard of any assets having left Lahore for them.

GEO ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

6th February.—No confirmation of the reports of the Dost's assassination, so it may be considered utterly false.

GEO. ST. P LAWRENCE, MAJOR.

No. 6.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 6th, to Saturday, the 12th February 1848.

6th February 1848.—Yesterday the extreme penalty of the law was carried into effect on Hadjee of the village of Peer Surbagh for the murder of a girl to whom he was betrothed.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan returned from escorting Lieutenant Taylor to the Kohat Pass.

7th February 1848.—Inspected the whole of the troops, Regular and Irregular: carried into effect the sentence of the court-martial on the Havildar of Ruttun Singh's Regiment. I excused the corporal punishment on account of the general good conduct of the troops.

In the evening with Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie paid Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan a visit at the Wuzeeree Bagh.

Transacted business with the Governor, revenue and judicial.

8th February.—By arrangements made last evening I started at gunfire for the Fort of Doaba, Lieutenant Lumsden for Jumrood and Lieutenant Bowie for Barrah. I returned at 2 P.M., being detained crossing the Cabul river. I am happy to say we found all right, except at the Fort of Barrah, where the Killadar was found absent; said to be in Peshawur.

Under the Fort of Doaba a considerable village has grown up, the Hindoos of which petitioned to have a wall built to protect them from the inroads of the hill tribes in the neighbourhood. I have consented to pay half the cost, they paying the other half.

Lieutenant Christopher of the Indian Navy has reported the arrival of the steamer *Conqueror* at Kalabagh on the 2nd instant and his intention to proceed as far as Attock, if possible.

9th February.—This being the festival of *Bussunt* the Governor with all the officers, Military and Civil, waited on me and presented the usual Nuzzur, which I made over to the Government Treasury.

Amused the officers by showing them the effects of gun-cotton fired from a pistol.

The corpse of a man cut to pieces near Mashoo Guggar was brought in to-day, said to have been done by the Afreedees.

The Mullik of Mutta brought in a man for killing his wife by kicking her in the stomach.

10th February.—I was unable from indisposition to hold my usual Durbar of Urbobs, but deputed Lieutenant Lumsden to see them.

In the evening the Governor called and sat with me for some time, discussing various matters. He tells me that the army are well contented and most anxious to do everything to please us; as for himself he is entirely bound to us.

Intelligence from Jellalabad of a recent date is that Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, has defeated the troops of Sirdar Golam Hyder near Lughman, killing ten or twelve and causing them to retire on Jellalabad.

11th February 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the force. His regiment has applied to give a feast to some hundred priests. I told him that I did not approve of collecting so many, but as a special case I would sanction it.

Completed to-day the muster of the Ghorechurras, and on Monday propose paying up the arrears of those to be pensioned and discharged, etc.

Lieutenant Lumsden with his Guides marched this morning to the village of Mutta to enquire into the Revenue Settlement of Momund and the villages under the hills, which, though subject to Peshawur, have hitherto paid no revenue, no Governor having had the power to enforce it. With him I sent the Urbobs of Momund and Kallah, who are represented to me as having for many years by their reports deterred the Sikhs from visiting that quarter.

12th February.—I have ordered the sale this evening of the bullocks of the Artillery condemned by me as unfit for the service.

With the aid of three non-commissioned officers of the Guides formerly in our Cavalry, I have commenced instructing the Khas Dragoons in the English system of equitation and drill.

Still no accounts of the despatch of pay for the troops.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 7.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 13th, to Saturday, the 19th of February 1848.

13th February 1848.—I regret to say the Governor was taken ill last night on his return from settling a dispute about water, the distance being 12 or 14 miles; he started early and was out all day.

A report arrived from Colonel Bhaug Singh of his having crossed the Attock with his regiment of Cavalry.

14th February 1848.—The regiments paraded on their own parades consequent on the indisposition of the Governor.

With Lieutenant Bowie I visited the Governor, and sat with him some time; he seems more alarmed than really ill: Mr. Thompson's absence I fancy has its weight with him. I purpose seeing him again this evening.

A Ghorechurra named Kurrum Singh presented a petition accusing Prem Singh, Ghorechurra, and others with having made him drunk and committed an unnatural crime on him. I directed Sirdar Kahn Singh to assemble five officers of his corps and investigate the complaint.

15th February.—The Shere Regiment of Cavalry under Colonel Bhaug Singh arrived this morning from Hussun Abdall consisting of all ranks of 279 sabres, 218 being absent on command, etc. The horses and men I immediately inspected, and consider both very inferior to the Khas and Aukal regiments.

I have told the Colonel that in a fortnight I will inspect the regiment again.

I visited the Governor, who is regularly laid up.

16th February.—With Lieutenant Bowie visited the Governor, who is, I am happy to say, somewhat better.

We had heavy rain all yesterday. The canal which runs through the city being choked up, I have ordered it to be cleaned out, widened, and deepened.

The Nujeeb Regiment of Ameer Khan I have ordered to occupy the cantonments vacated by Colonel Maun's Singh Poorbea Regiment, and purpose levelling the old cantonment of Colonel Holmes, which is irregularly built on what was formerly the Artillery parade, so that it may revert to its legitimate use.

17th February.—Lieutenant Lumsden having completed his inspection of the villages under the Momund hills joined me this morning. He reports that there is no doubt they should pay revenue to the amount of 10,000 or 12,000 rupees.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, who are all most anxious to pay the steamer *Conqueror* a visit. I have promised to take them with me if I can get away on her reaching Attock.

Colonel Boodh Singh, Maun, has reported his arrival with his regiment at Attock and his anxiety to come on to Peshawur. I have written him to obey the Durbar's and Resident's orders to remain where he is; that should his corps be required I will send for it.

18th February 1848.—Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie visited the Governor last evening and I this morning, and I am happy to say the old gentleman is better; our attentions are highly gratifying to him.

I cannot get any one to take the farm of the tolls on the Attock; they are very unproductive: though I have done my best by employing sepoys to superintend the collections, they are too distant for me to have efficient control over them. I would suggest that a contractor be obtained at Lahore, or that they be put under Lieutenant Nicholson, the Superintendent of Sind Sagur.

I completed to-day my second inspection of the Ghorechurras. I saw each man on foot and have selected out of those receiving cash payments 88 for pensions and 119 to be discharged, total 207.

Received a complimentary letter from Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan asking me to restore the jagheer of one of his followers, Sirdar Mahomed Hussun Khan; it was granted by the late Maharaja Shere Singh and confiscated last year by order of the Durbar. I replied that I regretted financial pressure of the Sikh Government precluded my meeting his wishes.

19th February.—Talking to a Hindostanee sepoy, late in the Sikh service, now in the Guide Corps, I learnt that there is still some uncertainty in the minds of the Khalsa soldiery as to our intentions; they appear to think that we intend to get rid of them by degrees.

In Durbar I mooted the subject. The Governor, Colonel Ruttun Singh, Ram Sahaie Singh and others declared that the Infantry were quite satisfied that it was not our intention to reduce their strength, but they admitted that the Cavalry were not so certain; that the Ghorechurra reduction now in course led them to fancy that their turn would come next. I desired that they might be informed we had no such intentions.

A letter from Lieutenant Taylor reports his having joined Lieutenant Edwardes at Bunnoo on the 11th instant, when he found all quiet. He says "from the opinions of Afghan threats, which I have imbibed from you at Peshawur, I think the inroad talked of here a very improbable event, but there is as you say no saying."

The Governor continues to improve in health, though he is too weak to leave his room.

Still no accounts of the pay having left Lahore.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 8.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 20th, to Saturday, the 26th February 1848.

20th February 1848.—With Lieutenant Lumsden I paid the Governor a visit and found him sitting up.

We also visited the lines of Maun Singh's Poorbea Regiment in which I have now located Colonel Meer Khan's Nujeeb Corps. The lines are much out of repair; I have ordered them to be repaired at the cost of the State.

21st February.—With Lieutenant Lumsden I visited the Governor.

I inspected five horses of the Artillery reported by Lieutenant Bowie as unfit from disease and lameness; one, which appeared to be glandered, I ordered to be shot and the other four to be sold by auction.

Lieutenant Bowie represents that many horses die and are lost to the service from the want of veterinary aid: if a native farrier or two could be sent here from India, this evil would be remedied.

Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the army.

I am happy to hear from the Paymaster that pay for two months has been despatched from Lahore for the troops; better it had been for four months.

22nd February 1848.—At Lieutenant Bowie's request I inspected General Elahee Buksh's troop of Horse Artillery; the General puts them through several manœuvres in the English style very creditably. This troop is quite as well horsed as any of ours.

Transacted revenue affairs with Colonel Alla Singh, whom I have requested to aid his father, the Governor.

I have been obliged to imprison 12 contractors, defaulters to the amount of 16,000 rupees revenue.

Certain stores of wine ordered from Scinde by Colonel Lawrence, to be conveyed by the steamer to Attock, were landed at Kalabagh, and from thence brought on camels by Kohaut; have reached me in good order. My Chupper Bashee, who was in charge, states that the Afreedees attempted to stop the camels at the Kohaut Pass, but did not succeed, he being aided by a friendly Syed with a dozen Jezailchees.

Two prisoners sent by the Kardar of Rawul Pindee escaped on the road at the village of Pubbee, were discovered and brought in to me by two of the City Police. I gave them a present of four rupees for their zeal and activity.

23rd February.—It rained hard all night and all day, so that our usual crowd of petitioners did not attend. It is fine for the crops.

Colonel Ruttun Singh brought the reports of the force. Two Sowars of the Shere Dragoons have returned from general leave which they have overstayed two and a half months. I have consequently directed them to be discharged as an example to others.

During Monday and Tuesday under the superintendence of Colonels Ruttun Singh and Ameer Khan I had fatigue parties of 200 men per regiment employed in pulling down the huts of Colonel Holmes' Brigade, which they have most effectually done, with great zeal and alacrity, the officers lending their elephants to aid in the work of destruction; the wood I have had collected for public purposes.

24th February.—Heavy rain all day and night; no Durbar in consequence and little business transacted, beyond the daily City Police cases.

The whole face of the country is one sheet of water. I fear much damage to the houses in the city.

25th February 1848.—Continued rain, night and day; several houses are reported to have fallen and much of the city wall.

A report from the Soobadar on duty in the fort of Jehanghera says that hearing cow-killing was going on in the town, he sent a party to watch and seize the perpetrators; they came on a carcass, but only caught one man, whom the Soobadar confined. The following day the head of the town sent to tell him if the prisoner was not released they would take their own measures to effect it. I have ordered these pugnacious gents to be sent in to Peshawur.

26th February.—A fine sunny day. The rain only ceased last night. Some 30 houses came down, but no loss of life, I am happy to say.

I hear that the two months' pay for the troops has reached Khairabad on mules, so that I hope to disburse it in a few days; two months' more should be despatched without delay, for now that we have accustomed the troops to expect regular issues, it will not do to disappoint them.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 15th instant mentions the illness of the Ameer and the continued rebellion of Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, but nothing of more importance.

Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie paid a visit to the Sirdar last evening and found him, I am happy to say, quite recovered.

Transacted business with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh, revenue with the former and military with the latter.

The amount saved to the State by my recent pensioning and discharging of Ghorechurras amounts in the former to 82,306 rupees, and in the latter to 32,487 rupees, total about 1,14,793 rupees per annum.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N. W. F.

No. 9.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 27th February, to Saturday, the 4th March 1848.

27th February 1848.—Ten mule loads of treasure arrived from Lahore in amount 80,000 rupees, an order also on this Treasury for 60,000, total 1,40,000, short by 6,000, of what the Paymaster estimated.

Seven prisoners arrived from Sirdar Lall Singh, sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for cow-killing.

28th February.—The Governor, with his son Colonel Alla Singh, and Ruttun Singh attended and transacted business.

Commenced the issue of pay for the months of *Katick* and *Magha*, corresponding with 15th October to 15th December.

The new Paymaster applied to me to know if the old deductions from the troops were to continue to be made. I replied, in the affirmative, till orders to the contrary were received from Lahore.

I was much amused this morning. A Khyber Mullik brought me a testimonial of good service from Captain H. P. Burn, and applied for service. I told him I could only give him a sepoy's berth in the Police ; this he declined, but cooly said, "I am going to Teera ; give me some money to take me there." These gents seem to think they have nothing to do but to ask to receive cash.

29th February.—Completed issuing pay to the Khas Dragoons.

With Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie rode to the Fort of Barrah. Hearing that it had sustained considerable damage from the late heavy rain, we inspected it thoroughly and found the report true; have accordingly ordered it to be repaired. The storekeeper was absent in the city without leave; this being his second offence of this nature I have directed his discharge.

We likewise inspected the Barrah river at a point where it is proposed to form a *bund*, to direct it into its old channel, which, if we can succeed in doing, great benefit will result to the lands on both banks.

We returned at about 11 A.M., having ridden 20 miles.

In the evening had a visit from Sirdars Sultan Mahomed Khan and Peer Mahomed Khan

Received a letter from Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan in reply to mine of the 25th January, relative to permitting the family of Hussein Khan, Gurdezye, our pensioner, to join him; the Ameer says he never prevented them leaving, and supposes they do not wish to move. In reply I said that doubtless enemies of Hussein Khan's were the cause of the delay in their coming. I therefore hoped that the Ameer would himself send for them and pass them on to Peshawur.

The letter was brought by an old *cossid* of the Cabul Mission, with whom I had a long talk. He represents affairs to be much in the state that I have from time to time reported them.

1st March 1848.—Visited the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur which has suffered but little from the recent rains. Also visited the jail in the city, which requires enlarging and repairing.

Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with civil and military papers, and the Governor called in the evening.

A man of the village of ——— is reported to have killed his brother-in-law by striking him with a spade on the head: the man fled, but his father and brother have been brought in, a custom which prevails here and through which alone the authorities at times are enabled to seize culprits.

Some Afreedees from the hills are said to have carried off a girl during the night close to cantonments; this is the second time this girl has been carried off. She was restored through another custom, which has long been in force here, but which I put a stop to; it is called "Bota Barampta," or taking the change out of the party offending, *i.e.*, this girl is seized by men of a village; the parents in return lay hold of any man or woman of that village and detain him or her till their own is restored: a cow is stolen and traced to a certain tribe or village; the party losing the animal may seize one or more animals of this tribe and keep them till he gets his own.

I have been several times urged by the Urbobs, as the only means of putting a stop to the depredations of the Afreedees, to allow the practice of "Bota Barampta" to be resumed, as there is no other way of getting at them, and I expect I shall have to comply.

Avitabile commonly hung all Afreedees caught stealing or plundering, generally without even the form of a trial.

2nd March 1848.—Held my usual Durbar of Urbobs and gentry.

The Governor with Colonels Ruttun Singh and Alla Singh were with me for some hours transacting business.

Several men of the different regiments, old and worn out, having applied to be pensioned, I have directed rolls to be prepared for transmission to Lahore, and after inspecting the men will send them to the capital for final orders.

3rd March.—Lieutenant Lumsden marched this morning to Mullozye to commence the settlement of the Tuppah of Dullozye. Lieutenant Bowie and I accompanied him as far as the village of Palosee. The whole face of the country is one sheet of cultivation.

The Governor was with me for some time this evening, and I drove him in my buggy through the city to the jail to inspect it and arrange for its repair and enlargement. Since I have discontinued fining for crime the prisoners have greatly increased; they now amount to 230.

I have classified them, keeping defaulters and debtors in the city, burglars and thieves at work on the roads in the Agency compound, and convicts and felons in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur.

4th March.—Rode through the city last evening to inspect the cleaning out of the canal and the barracks of the Police, which have suffered from the recent heavy rain.

Lieutenant Bowie inspected 250 bullocks of the Artillery, about to proceed to Kutchi to bring from General Cortlandt 50 hackeries which he has made up under orders from the Durbar.

I have no recent intelligence from the west; here all is quiet.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 10.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, rom Sunday, the 5th, to Saturday, the 11th March 1848.

5th March 1848.—Sunday.

6th March.—With Lieutenant Bowie inspected the whole of the troops, Regular and Irregular, drawn up in review order. Sirdar

Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, commanding the Ghorechurras, was precluded by indisposition from attending.

Transacted business with Governor and his son, Colonel Alla Singh, who continues to assist his father.

I presented Colonel Ruttun Singh, Maun, with a double-barrelled gun, to mark my approval of his conduct and exertions: the Governor employs him as a sort of Adjutant-General, or confidential Staff.

7th March 1848.—Rode out to Dullozye to see Lieutenant Lumsden and to confer with him on settlement matters; he appears to be progressing well. Returned at 10 A.M.

Wrote to Lieutenant Christopher to ascertain the progress of the *Conqueror*, but my letter was returned by the Killadar of Attock, who said that the steamer had been obliged to return.

Sirdar Mehtab Singh, Mujeetea, reports his arrival at Rawul Pindee with his ten guns for Peshawur and their despatch thence under charge of Colonel Mit Singh, his brother I suspect.

8th March.—Sent my tents out this morning to the village of Shaikh Cossum *alias* Shaikhan, under the Afreedee hills, about a *koss* from the Fort of Barrah, at the head of the Momund Tuppah (district), and followed after transacting the business of the day.

The Governor, Sirdar Goolab Singh, Pohvindiah, has sent in an application for 2½ months' leave to proceed to his home for the purpose of marrying his youngest son, Lena Singh: he wishes to start on the 25th instant.

The Adjutant of Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment arrived with a letter reporting the corps having crossed the Attock. I have directed on entering cantonments that they occupy the lines of the Khas Regiment on command at Bunnoo.

Lieutenant Bowie and General Elahee Buksh of the Artillery rode out with me some miles.

On reaching camp a little before sunset I was met by the Mulliks of Shaikh Cossum and rode with them through the village, half of which is in ruins, said to have been so ever since it was attacked by Ameer Dost Mohomed Khan, the year Sirdar Hurree Singh was killed. From

its proximity to the Khyber hills, it suffers considerably from the incursions of these marauders.

9th March 1848.—Rode through the villages of Mooshterzye, Utmanzye, Koora Khail, and Mashoo Khail. All are large, have much land attached, with a plentiful supply of water, but, from their interminable feuds, much depopulated.

Mashoo Khail is the village Lieutenant Lumsden *chapawed* last year to apprehend Dawur Khan, up to that period a noted freebooter. He is now in attendance on me. These villagers are said to be able to turn out 4,000 matchlockmen, and more than once have beaten off the Sikh troops.

On crossing the Barrah river last evening, where materials are being collected to make the *bund*, and a canal being cut to change the course of the river, I was much amused at a huge athletic Afghan calling out to me, "I am from Mashoo Khail; we are all at work."

This morning Urbob Futteh Khan told me with a grin that Mashoo Khail, which had hitherto never furnished a man on any public work, on this occasion had been put down for 50 ploughs; these they not only sent but added 10 more.

Talking to Dawur Khan and other Mulliks of the folly of their continued feuds, he said they arose chiefly from the weakness of the Sikh rulers, of which there can be little doubt.

Last night at this village of Shaikh Cossum an unfortunate Hindoo had one side of his face cut off and several sabre wounds on his body. I took his deposition on oath, from which it appears that while sleeping he felt his *razaie* pulled at, resisting which he was thus brutally cut. On his naming the assassin I called to the head Mullik to send for him, on which he stepped out from the crowd that had collected near me. The Hindoo immediately recognised him, on which he said, "How can you swear to me, what evidence have you?" I have imprisoned him.

10th March.—Rode through the villages of Bullolzye, Mashoo Guggar, Suleman Khail, Shahab Khail, Shaikh Mahomdee and Guree Malli Khail. All but the first are large, with much land, though several of them have been twice their present size; the numerous trees here show the awe in which these villages have been held by the Sikhs. Mashoo

Guggar is the one from which I last year received the civil message that they had never been in to Avitabile and why should they come to me, and for which I seized at once eleven Mulliks.

In passing the house of the ringleader I laughingly asked him if he was now "Yaghee" (rebellious). "Not I," he replied, "I got a lesson from you."

It is quite terrible to see the ravages caused by the feuds among these people; they tell me that they have now ceased. I trust it is so.

In the evening I rode to the Barrah river to inspect the progress of the *bund*, and was much amused to see the zeal with which all the people worked. I should think there were at least 1,000 men and boys with double that number of bullocks.

11th March 1848.—Marched to the village of Budwair, passing through those of Shahab Khail, Utmanzye, Ullizye, Ahmud Khail and Bazid Khail; the last four were for many years the jageer of Sirdar Futteh Singh, Maun, and have consequently been much impoverished from over-assessment. I recently released the Mulliks from a long confinement on their giving security for arrears of revenue to be paid in two years.

My tents being late in arriving, taking two sowars I rode into cantonments, only distant six miles.

The Sirdar and Colonel Alla Singh called to report proceedings during my absence. Colonel Uttur Singh, Maun's, Regiment arrived this morning, as did the ten guns for the forts. The bullocks which brought the guns I have directed to return.

Intelligence from Jellalabad up to the 5th is that Sirdar Golam Hyder Khan had started with five horsemen to Cabul, in consequence of the serious illness of Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan.

I am thankful to say that all is quiet in this Province; the people appear well content, and I ride with two or three horsemen, which no Governor was ever known to do.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 11.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 12th, to Saturday, the 18th March 1848.

12th March 1848.—As I return to camp to-morrow, I inspected this evening Colonel Uttur Singh, Maun's, Regiment. It is by no means so good-looking a corps as either of the other two Sikh regiments with me; its strength——firelocks.

I also inspected the guns, but will not allot them to forts till I return.

The Governor with all the officers waited on me; those of Uttur Singh's Regiment presented nuzzurs. As the *Holee* commences to-morrow, at the Governor's suggestion, to mark my appreciation of the conduct of the troops during the last twelve months, I sanctioned the sum of 1,500 rupees being distributed out of the nuzzurs presented to me on my late visit to Lahore among the two regiments of Cavalry, six troops of Artillery, six Regiments of Regular Infantry and two of Ramgoles, to assist them in keeping the *Holee* festival.

13th March.—I rejoined my camp at Budwair, visiting the village of Deh Bahadoor *en route.*

Have been engaged all day in the summary settlement, which progresses very slowly, the zemindars declaring they are too poor to undertake it.

The village is a very large one, but, like the others, half in ruins; it has been several times burnt by the Sikh troops. I have just walked all round it, attended by a couple of chuprassees.

14th March.—Rode out this morning to settle a dispute of long standing between the Mulliks of Budwair and those of Sorozye as to their right to a water-mill. These disputes about water are never ending, and used to lead to much bloodshed.

Though absent from the city, the Governor sends me all the police and judicial reports.

The payment of the troops, Regular and Ramgole, up to the 5th December has been completed, but I have not heard of any arrangement being made to pay the Ghorechurras.

15th March 1848.—It commenced raining last evening and poured torrents till 7 A.M., by which time my camp being nearly afloat and there being no prospect of my being able to move it, I left it standing with a small guard and rode into cantonments.

Crossing the river Barrah, which on Monday morning was hardly ankle deep, I found it beyond the saddle girths, and running like a sluice and the whole country flooded.

Towards noon the sky cleared, and the Governor paid me a visit in the evening.

16th March.—It rained again all last night and part of to-day; no Durbar in consequence.

The eldest son of Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan is said to have quarrelled with his father and gone off to his uncle, Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan sent his son Noor Mahomed Khan to bring him back, but he would not come.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 7th instant confirms the report of the Ameer's illness and of the recall of his son, Golam Hyder Khan, from Jellalabad.

17th March.—Transacted business with the Governor and his son, Colonel Alla Singh.

Received a petition in the name of all the Ghorechurras under Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, complaining of their being in arrears ten months and not receiving *Batta.* I replied that they should make their complaint through their Commandant. It would be desirable to call the attention of the Durbar to the necessity of paying their arrears, for they naturally expect to be paid as regularly as the other troops. The subject of *Batta* would likewise seem to require consideration.

18th March.—With Lieutenant Bowie rode through the city and round the fort to inspect the damage done by the rain and the progress made in clearing out the canal.

I am happy to say that my *bund* of the river Barrah has suffered little, which gives me hopes that when completed it will stand any rise of the river.

The Governor gave a *nautch* to all the officers in celebration of *Holee*, at which Lieutenant Bowie attended, making an excuse for me.

Lieutenant Lumsden came in from his camp at Dullozye.

I received a letter from the King of Khokand of four months date, brought by a Cabul merchant named Alladad Khan, who was also the bearer of one to Major MacGregor, C.B. It is complimentary on hearing of our victories on the Sutledge and occupation of Cashmeer and the Punjab, and professes great devotion to British interests; it mentions the arrest at Sultan Huzrut of a European, calling himself an Englishman, named Wyburd, and wishes to know if he is really our countryman, etc.

The Governor has not received the Lahore Akhbar for five days.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 12.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 19th, to Saturday, the 25th March 1848.

19th March 1848.—This the last day of the *Holee* went off well, no disturbance of any kind; in previous years this festival rarely ended without an affray between the Sikh soldiers and the townspeople.

I have excused the General Parade to-morrow consequent on the *Holee* ending to-day: it will take place on Tuesday instead.

20th March.—The Governor brought all the officers to wait on me on the conclusion of the *Holee*; they expressed on behalf of their men their sense of my kindness to them, saying that they had not had such a festival since the time of Maharaja Sher Singh.

In the evening General Elahee Baksh with the Governor came and took Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie to a *nautch* at the house of the former, at which were present all the officers.

I have directed furlough rolls of officers and men to be prepared, and authorised the Paymaster to disburse two months' pay to such as are entitled to the indulgence, so that they may start as soon as the Resident's sanction is obtained.

To-morrow being the Mahomedan festival of *Nowroze*, I have sanctioned my office establishment and that of the Governor getting a

holiday. The whole of Peshawur turn out into the neighbouring gardens for the day; they consider that if this day is passed happily, the rest of the year will be so too.

21st March 1848.—The troops paraded for exercise this morning on their private parades.

I transacted business with the Governor and his son, Colonel Alla Singh.

A petition has been presented by certain Ghilzie camel sowars setting forth that 350 camels, while they were pasturing near Kohat, as is their wont at this season, had been driven off by the Sepah tribe of Orakzyes. I have written Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan to endeavour to have them restored.

I said to the Ghilzies, being thieves yourselves, how can you expect to recover your property? "Though we be thieves," they replied, "we expect to obtain justice at your Durbar."

I inspected about 30 men of the different corps reported incapable of performing active duty and have ordered their pension rolls to be prepared. The amount of pension must be left to be filled up at Lahore as I have not yet received the rules fixing the different rates.

The Governor and Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, waited on me with a Robakaree in reply to the Resident's in the matter of Kurrum Singh and Pran Singh, Ghorechurras, as they are of opinion that to transfer these men to another station would be to brand them for ever. I have acquiesced in their remaining here: this I have done the more readily in consideration of the general good conduct of the Ghorechurras.

22nd March.—The Barukzye Sirdars were with me for some time; they complain bitterly of the Durbar taking up old claims against them. Sultan Mahomed says, why were they not made ere he left Lahore, when he could have answered them on the spot? I have told them to produce any papers they may have on the subject to enable me to submit it to the Resident. The Durbar have more than once directed the Governor to confiscate their jageers unless the amount is paid, but this extreme measure I would fain avoid for many reasons.

23rd March.—With Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie rode to the Barrah river to inspect the *bund*, which is nearly finished; returned

by the villages of Surbund, Pushti Khara and Nowdeh; the Kardars of all these are in confinement for arrears of revenue. The change in the river's course will benefit these villages greatly.

Held my usual weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry; talked to Mahomed Zuman Khan, son of Allum Khan, Orakzye, about the seizure of the 350 camels of the Ghilzies. He says that the Sepahs are independent of all control, and that they cannot be coerced from the inaccessibility of their fastnesses.

A report has been received from Eusufzye that the inhabitants of Naranji on the border attacked a *Bandah* or suburb of the village of Shiwah in Eusufzye and burnt and destroyed it. Ameer Khan of Shiwah collected the Ooloos of his district and made a foray against Naranji, bringing back with him 400 head of cattle, together with the head Mullik and some of his followers: these I have ordered to be sent in for examination. This village of Naranji did not come in to Lieutenant Lumsden when making the settlement, and as it was by no means clear that it was a portion of Eusufzye, the attendance of the Mulliks was not insisted on; the Sikh troops on one occasion suffered a severe repulse from the inhabitants of Naranji.

24th March 1848.—Walked through the city by the banks of the canal, which I am having widened and cleared out.

Seven bullocks laden with salt were brought in last night, seized near Akhora passing the line without paying the duty; their owners absconded. I have ordered the cattle to be sold and the salt to be lodged in the Government store.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan tells me that he sent his son Noor Mahomed Khan to try and recover the Ghilzie camels; that at a conference with the plunderers they agreed to restore the cattle on payment of Rs. 10 a head, but on no other terms will they give them up, and that he has no power to compel them, from the nature of their country.

A sepoy of the Mussulman Regiment was deputed to convey 50 rupees to some comrades on duty at Rawul Pindee, instead of doing which he went home, spent the money, and coolly returned, as if he had committed no fault. I have confined him, and directed the General to bring him to trial.

25th March 1848.—The Governor was with me for some hours discussing the arrangements consequent on his approaching departure. We have arranged that the reports of the troops shall be made through the senior officer, General Elahee Buksh of the Artillery.

Another petition from the Ghorechurras was presented stating that they were nine months in arrears and representing that they did not get *Batta*, while all the rest of the force did, even to the syces and bullock drivers.

Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, called during the day. I took the opportunity to request he would cause it to be explained to the men under his command that I had represented their case to the Resident, and they must quietly wait the result.

A Sikh native officer came up to me this morning when I was alone, and after talking on different matters said that I should continue to put into the several regiments an officer or two of other creeds, Mahomedans into Sikh and Sikh into Mahomedan and Poorbea Corps, so that I might rely on having correct information of what went on; that when all were of one faith little would transpire: the hint is a good one and shall be acted on as opportunity offers.

There is a report of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan being at Jellalabad, but as my news-writer at Cabul is silent I doubt it.

The Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, purposes starting in a few days, the Durbar purwanna granting him 2½ months' leave having arrived; it sanctions his son Colonel Alla Singh acting in his room. I have acquiesced in the Governor's taking a guard of 60 men of all grades with him from those who would first proceed on leave.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 13.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 26th March, to Saturday, the 1st April 1848.

26th March 1848.—Rode with Lieutenants Lumsden and Bowie to see my *bund* at the Barrah river; it is nearly completed.

27th March 1848.—Inspected all the troops, Regular and Irregular, on Grand Parade.

The report of the arrival of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan at Jellalabad is confirmed; many people say he intends paying me a visit!

The pay of the Sher regiment of Dragoons not having arrived, and being told that they were in want of money, I have directed the amount to be advanced from the Treasury and to be disbursed in my presence.

28th March.—The Guide Corps marched this morning in progress to Lahore. At my request Lieutenant Lumsden has left with me, for the purpose of drilling the Sikh troops, two Duffadars and two Sowars of the Cavalry, and three Havildars of the Infantry, subject to approval by Resident.

The Kardar (farmer) of Khuttuck, Hakim Raie, being a defaulter to the amount of Rs. 13,000, I have placed him in restraint, with his two relatives, Jowalla Sahaie and Gunput Raie, who went surety for him; the three are Commandants of Ramgoles, protégés of the Attariwallas.

There are likewise many complaints of oppression and extortion against Hakim Raie.

29th March.—Lieutenant Lumsden started this evening to overtake the Guides at Naushera. I cannot part with this officer without once more recording my sense of his services since he has been associated with me and the loss this Province will sustain in him.

The Governor with several Commanding Officers represent that the troops are disinclined to send their letters by the Post Office, saying that they never reach their families; they propose that they should take them to the post, and there pay the postage, getting the stamp affixed and then send them by their own messengers. I have consented to this pending the Resident's decision.

I regret to say that a robbery attended with murder took place last night at Akerpora and that the murderer has not since been heard of.

A Cashmeeree bunneah, who resides in the Wuzeeree Bagh, was cut down last night near the city, and his son, a lad of ten, carried off. I have written to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed on the subject.

30th March.—Rode to the Barrah river to see my *bund:* the river has been turned into its original channel.

A sentry of Ram Sahaie Singh's Regiment was wounded last night on his post. I have issued a proclamation directing no Afghan to be out after 8 P.M.; this I did after consulting the Urbobs.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry, and afterwards took the accounts of the salt monopoly and some revenue matters for the last year.

31st March 1848.—Rode to the cantonment of Suchet Singh and inspected the lines of Ram Sahaie's Regiment and post at which the sentry was wounded on the night of the 29th; directed some walls in the vicinity to be levelled.

Presented the Governor with a khillut to the amount of Rs. 1,500 on his departure and the approaching marriage of his son. At my recommendation he has declined the presents of the officers usual on such occasions; his son, Colonel Alla Singh, suggested this to me.

The Resident's Robakaree to the Durbar, with reference to my letter of the 28th ultimo suggesting the discontinuance of sundry deductions from the troops, has afforded lively gratification.

1st April.—I have sanctioned two months' pay to be issued to the troops proceeding on leave of absence. The Paymaster having no assets, I have given it from the Treasury, to be refunded. Of the Regulars 1,331 of all grades are availing themselves of furlough.

The latest intelligence from Jellalabad and Cabul is up to the 20th and 25th ultimo, but is unimportant.

The Governor took leave of me this evening; he starts to-morrow.

GEO. St. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 14.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 2nd, to Saturday, the 8th April 1848.

2nd April 1848.—The Governor marched this morning under the usual salute.

The body of a man with his head cut off was found near one of the gardens; apparently a traveller; his person had been rifled.

With the concurrence of the Governor consequent upon these recent murders and robberies, I have issued a Proclamation warning all Afghans to keep at home from 8 P.M. till daybreak, and have directed the vicinity of the city and cantonments to be patrolled, all men found out to be seized and brought in prisoners.

The ease with which marauders can escape, from the vicinity of the Khyber and Momund and Afreedee hills, renders it most difficult to apprehend them.

I rode to the Barrah river; my *bund* is finished and answers admirably; it only now remains to see if it will stand the freshes which come down from the hills with great violence.

3rd April 1848.—I excused the Grand Parade this morning as the leave of absence men, 1,331 from the Regulars, had to receive their pay for the months of *Poh* and *Magh*, which was issued in my presence.

Two *missuls* of Ghorechurras were likewise paid two months for *Sawun* and *Badhon*, corresponding with 9th July to 14th September.

The unfortunate man, whose body was found yesterday, proves to have arrived from Kohaut, from whence he was sent to receive 36 rupees from some merchant in the city; this money he obtained and it doubtless caused his untimely end. The police are endeavouring to discover the perpetrator.

The son of the Cashmeeree bunneah, reported in my Diary of the 29th to have been carried off, was brought to me yesterday by Urbob Zereen Khan. The lad says he was seized by three Afreedees and taken to the hills; on the road they were met by another party, who fought for him, firing several shots at each other; the first however succeeded in retaining him; the third night he contrived to escape and was found by the Urbob's men wandering about the base of the hills.

I regret to say that I have not yet succeeded in recovering the Hindoo girl reported in my Diary of the 1st ultimo to have been carried off from the village of Tykal by certain Afreedees.

The Jirgha (council) of the village of Narinji in Eusufzye, with their head Mullik, Zearut Khan, who is in confinement, I had with me for some hours yesterday, and they have agreed to pay a small revenue to the Sirkar, a thing they have never previously done. I released their

Mullik and directed their cattle seized by Ameer Khan of Shiwah to be restored to them.

4th April 1848.—Paid two *missuls* of Ghorechurras this morning.

The Vakeel of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed waited on me with copy of a reply from Raie Bhaug Singh, apparently to a letter from the Resident, on the subject of *Batta* to the Barukzye contingent when serving with the Sikh troops. I asked to see the original papers fixing the amount of contingent, etc., but was told that the Sirdar had no copy; tha they were at Lahore. Sultan Mahomed says that his contingent being employed for more than two months entitled them to *Batta;* it would be desirable to get the original papers and that I should have a copy.

Shahzadah Hussein, son of Shah Timour and elder brother of the late Shah Shoojah-ool-moolkh, died last night. He enjoyed a jageer of about 7,000 rupees from the Sikh Government; he has left six sons, the two eldest he has long since disinherited.

Colonel Alla Singh transacted business with me, revenue and police.

5th April.—Transacted military matters with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Ruttun Singh. These officers daily attend at my quarters, receive the reports, listen to the complaints, etc., and then wait upon me with them. I have been induced to adopt this plan, finding that Ruttun Singh was carrying on all the details to the entire exclusion of his superior officer, General Elahee Buksh.

I have granted leave to the Ramgoles and Ghorechurras to the extent of ⅕th of their present numerical strength.

6th April.—With Lieutenant Bowie and Colonel Alla Singh rode to the village of Akerpora to arrange for rebuilding its *bund*, which was carried away two months ago. The river at present is too high to attempt it, but in another month it will be feasible, and unless done then all the crops will fail Rode through the village, which is large and straggling, densely populated. It was here the murder and robbery occurred, noted in my Diary of the 29th ultimo.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs at which I told those of Kulleel that unless the Khuttrie's daughter carried off from Tykal was restored

in ten days I should fine each Urbob 5 per cent on his Government allowances.

Received a report from the village of Akora of two girls, aged nine and three, having been strangled and thrown into a well by a lad of 15, for the sake of their ornaments: he has been apprehended and confesses, saying that the devil put it into his head; the case is under investigation.

Mr. Apothecary Thompson rejoined from leave to Agra. Fortunately his services have not been required during his absence

7th April 1848.—A seizure of 11 bullocks and two asses laden with contraband salt was made last night at the village of Rogey, the owners having absconded. I have ordered the cattle to be sold.

I have directed a Soobadar of Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment and sowar of the Khas Dragoons to be imprisoned for a month for highly insubordinate and mutinous conduct to Colonel Ruttun Singh and General Elahee Buksh in presence of several other officers. On the expiration of the month they will be paid up and discharged.

8th April.—Transacted civil and military affairs with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh.

Rode to the village of Poukah to inspect their aqueduct, represented to be in want of repair; it is an ancient pucka built one and will require an outlay of 400 or 500 rupees, which sum I have directed to be expended on it.

Seven prisoners arrived from Sirdar Lall Singh, Moraria, sentenced to three years' imprisonment for theft.

Intelligence from the west is of little moment beyond the return of the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan to Cabul.

I have recently entertained a few Khyberies in the City Police, with a view to obtain early intelligence of proceedings in that quarter.

An affray is reported to have occurred between two villages in Eusufzye, in which several men on both sides were wounded. I have ordered the parties to be sent in.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,

Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 15.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 9th, to Saturday, the 15th April 1848.

9th April 1848.—A Hindostanee sepoy of Ramgoles under the influence of opium this morning cut down two of his comrades in the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur. He then ran to the top of one of the houses, from which he threw himself on being followed. I had the three removed into my hospital.

Visited the jail in the city and saw each prisoner pass in review.

10th April.—The troops paraded for inspection on their respective parades. All the Commanding Officers afterwards attended at my quarters to make their *salam.* Colonel Mehtab Singh, Moraria, applied for leave, but as the Commandant of his Corps has just proceeded on leave, I was obliged to refuse him; this I much regret as he has proved himself smart, intelligent and most zealous.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh and continued making the settlement of the Momund Tuppah, which I find very uphill work; the zemindars one day agree and the next decline the settlement.

11th April.—In consequence of the bankruptcy of Hakim Raie, Kardar of Khuttuck, and the necessity that exists to have a responsible person to look after the interests of Government in the approaching harvest, I have deputed Colonel Dhun Raj of Ramgoles on this duty.

Alladad Khan, Cabul merchant, the bearer of the letter from the Ruler of Khokand, waited on me to take leave and receive my reply. I presented him with a *Zeafut* of 200 rupees and pair of shawls to the value of 150 rupees.

I regret to say that the Khans of Eusufzye are still debtors to the State to the amount of 45,000 rupees of the revenue for the year 1904; this following so quickly the settlement made by Lieutenant Lumsden augurs ill for its permanency.

12th April.—Under instructions from the Resident on the subject of the troops transmitting their letters through the Post Office, I have directed General Elahee Buksh to proclaim the new arrangements, and

to urge the troops to give them a fair trial, withdrawing my sanction to their sending letters by their own messengers.

Sirdar Peer Mahomed called to claim compensation for the loss of 4,000 rupees in his jageer by the abolishment of the customs. I told him I could not grant it, but would refer the matter to Lahore.

Riding down the parade I found a large tank had in two days been excavated by the 7th Company of Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment in direct disobedience of orders. I sent for the Colonel and ordered him to see it filled up by the company forthwith, which has been done. Were I not to be continually on the look out there would be no riding near the parades, for every man considers he is at liberty to dig holes wherever he likes.

13th April 1848.—Rode through the city and round the walls, returning by the village of Lundee through the fields, which are highly luxuriant.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry; reminded those of Khuleel that three days only remained of the period allowed them to produce the Hindoo girl carried off from Tykal by the Afreedees.

General Elahee Buksh is laid up with fever, and Colonel Jey Singh of the Artillery is said to have become insane. I directed Mr. Thompson to visit them.

Allee Jan Khan, Jewanshere, Kazulbash, has waited upon me with a petition praying for consideration from the British Government for services at Cabul; he produces testimomals from the late Sir W. H. Macnaghten, Captain Trevor and Captains Mackenzie, Johnson and Warburton, and accounts for the delay in submitting his claim to his not previously being able to get his testimonials from his friends, with whom he had lodged them on leaving Cabul.

14th April.—Rode through the city while Lieutenant Bowie visited the lines to transfer bullocks from the several troops to that of Colonel Jey Singh's, which having no horses I have made into a Bullock Battery.

The Regular Troops are now in their fifth month of arrears while the Ghorechurras are in their seventh; two months' pay for the former is said to have left Lahore six weeks ago, but as yet has not reached this. The late Governor-General's anxious desire was that the troops

should never be more than two months in arrears; the Durbar require constant urging on this head.

Transacted civil and military business with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh.

I had intended visiting Jumrood this morning, but was prevented by a heavy storm of thunder, lightning and rain.

Urbob Futteh Khan of Momund brought me the Jirgha or council of the Janikhore and Kohie tribes, thirty of whose horsemen enjoy a jageer of 4,000 rupees to keep their clans from plundering; these men of late having been remiss in their duties, the Jirgha propose their discharge and that the jageer should be made over to them. I conciliated and told them the subject should be considered.

15th April 1848.—Lieutenant Bowie visited the Fort of Jumrood this morning and found all right. I purpose sending one of the guns lately received from Lahore to this post, one to the post of Barrah and one to that of Doaba.

An Afghan calling himself a Vakeel from the Ruler of Budakshan waited on me, but having no credentials I told him I could take no notice of him till he produced them. I asked him about the European said to be at Khokand, but he could give no information beyond having heard the rumour.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 7th instant, but of no importance; the news-letter I have sent to the Resident.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 16.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 16th, to Saturday, the 22nd April 1848.

16th April 1848.—Pay for the Regular Troops for the months of *Poh* and *Magh*, from the 14th of December to the 9th of February, arrived this morning, having been despatched from Lahore one month and twenty days.

It has rained all day. I have consequently excused the Grand Parade for to-morrow, the soil here being such that after rain there is no moving out.

Ramgoles to the number of 448 have proceeded on leave.

17th April 1848.—A report from Mahomed Khan, Hotee, states that the Pulliwala sowars are again plundering; that they had recently carried off 175 head of cattle from one of his villages. I have told him to retaliate on them.

Transacted business, civil and military, with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh.

Two Hindostanees, named Emam Alli Shah, a sowar in the 4th Irregular Cavalry, and Fuzzul, a Mistree in the 6th Troop, 5th Light Cavalry, were brought to me by an Afghan who released them from captivity in Turkistan by paying 150 rupees for them; the Mistree has lost all his toes.

18th April.—With Colonel Alla Singh went over the accounts of the Treasury for the last year 1904 previous to their being sent to the Durbar.

Eighteen copies in Nagri and Persian of Griffin's Field Exercise having arrived, I distributed the same to the Sikh Infantry Corps, much to the gratification of the officers. I still require the Cavalry works.

Commenced the issue of pay to the troops for *Poh* and *Magh* from the left, Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment.

19th April.—Paid Meer Jung Ali's Regiment this morning.

On taking the accounts of the ferries on the Attock and Lundai for three months, I find the receipts of the former amount to Rs. 1,065-1-6 and of the latter to Rs. 1,242-4-6, while the cost of collecting is 120 rupees exclusive of the pay of 36 Sergeants, Havildars and sepoys amounting to rupees————; these men are likewise employed as collectors. I have tried to get contractors for these ferries but without success.

20th April.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs at which we discussed the affairs of the Khyber, the tribes of which are fighting daily together.

The Urbobs congratulated me on the results of my Proclamation of the 2nd instant, not a murder or robbery outside the city having since

occurred. Nothing but strong measures they say will keep the Peshawurees under subjection.

Two sepoys (Ramgoles) on duty in the Fort of Doaba having some claims on a Bunneah seized his goods and shut up his shop. I have ordered them to be discharged and the property restored to the owner.

Transacted business with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh and paid Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment.

21st April 1848.—Rode to Raja Suchet Singh's cantonments and saw Colonel Ram Sahaie's Regiment put through eight or ten evolutions by the Commandant in a very creditable manner. Afterwards visited the parade of Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment, and found it at company practice; this corps is the most backward of all at English drill.

Paid Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment and gave two men their discharge at their own request.

Received from Lieutenant Nicholson one Chundur, condemned to imprisonment for life, with Robakaree from Lahore.

Hussein Khan, Gurdezy, pensioner, who has been waiting here for some months in expectation of the Ameer Dost Mahomed letting his family join him, waited on me and begged I would write once more to the Ameer on his behalf, which I have consented to do, though I fear with little avail.

One of the city patrols under a Naib Kutwal was fired on last night by some robbers, while patrolling near the city; no injury done, but the miscreants escaped through the neighbouring gardens.

22nd April.—Visited this morning the parade of Colonel Meer Khan's Nujeeb Battalion and found the Second in Command putting them through the evolutions. The Colonel says he has never been in the habit of giving the word of command, not having voice sufficient. I recommended him to practice.

General Elahee Buksh is still seriously ill, and Colonel Jey Singh not better. I visited both these officers; the General was much pleased, but the Colonel took little notice of me; he refuses to take Europe medicine.

Lieutenant Nicholson writes me that he hopes to be with me on the 27th or 28th, unless I have any work for him on the road. I certainly

have work both in Khuttuck and Eusufzye, but fear to keep him in tents at this season as it would lay him up, if not endanger his life.

I finished to-day the revenue settlement of the Momund district, but regret to say without being able to persuade one village to take the settlement; all preferred the Kardar system. I was compelled to revert to it, this too although the zemindars admit the present harvest to be unprecedentedly flourishing.

Paid Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment and transacted business with the Colonel and the Deputy Governor.

Visited the Gor Khuttry on the Cazee representing that he required more accommodation for his court house; fixed on a large room on the lower floor and left him well satisfied; he complains of a want of Moonshies, there being so much more writing now than of old. I told him I would see to it.

I have no intelligence from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 17.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 23rd, to Saturday, the 29th April 1848.

23rd April 1848.—Sent purwannas to the Eusufzye Khans advising their quickly sending in the balance of revenue due if they wished to retain their present position.

24th April.—With Lieutenant Bowie inspected the whole of the Troops, Regular and Irregular, in Review order.

After the parade saw all the officers on the ground and again at my quarters.

General Elahee Buksh is reported by Mr. Thompson to be much better.

Colonel Meer Khan's Regiment received their pay this morning.

25th April.—Under escort of a company of Poorbeas and 25 Ghorechurras sent one of the 9-pounders lately received from Lahore to

the Fort of Barrah, and two 3-pounders into the Gor Khuttry, which latter will enable me to withdraw the Horse Artillery guns hitherto in that post.

The Shere Regiment of Cavalry were paid this morning; the horses are much improved since arrival, but it is a very indifferent looking corps.

26th April 1848.—Indisposition prevented me this morning receiving the daily reports of the troops or of seeing Sirdar Peer Mahomed, who called to take leave on proceeding to the Doaba.

The Khas Dragoons were paid at my quarters, but not in my presence; all went on quietly; the new Pay-master gets on well.

Under escort of a company of Meer Jung Ali's Regiment sent a 9-pounder to the Fort of Jumrood; this makes two 9 and two 3-pounders in that post.

27th April.—Lieutenant Nicholson joined me this morning from Hussun Abdall. I regret to say he is labouring under a severe attack of fever, which has reduced him much.

Sirdar Peer Mahomed paid me a long visit prior to proceeding to his jageer. I spoke to him on the subject of keeping his contingent in Bunnoo paid up. He said he did his best, but it was not an easy matter, as they all more or less were paid by small grants of jageer; however that he would do his best. He certainly appears the wisest of the three brothers.

The son of Sirdar Syed Mahomed likewise visited me on behalf of his father to complain of the people of Jungee, a hilly portion of his jageer, refusing to pay their revenue, and requesting that should they come in to me to complain I would punish them. I told him I would investigate and act accordingly.

Syed Mahomed is in great financial embarrassments and is said to be plundered much by the people about him.

Received intelligence from the Resident of the disaster in Mooltan and of Messrs. Agnew and Anderson being wounded, and that two regiments from Huzara and the one at Attock had been directed to proceed to that quarter, but that my force would not be touched. Replied that I considered it would be hazardous to withdraw a man from this

side of the Jhelum, for that, although we were all quiet, with such a fickle people to deal with as we had there was no knowing what effect the news might cause.

Sent an express to Colonel Boodh Singh to prepare boats on the Attock, but not to embark till further orders.

All the officers of the Regular Troops waited on Lieutenant Nicholson with nuzzurs, which he returned. Took the opportunity to quietly caution them to be on the alert and instantly report any unusual movement among their men; they assured me I might place every reliance on the troops, and I believe them.

Held my usual weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gratified them by announcing that I had directed a place of prayer to be erected near my house for the use of all who attended my Court.

28th April 1848.—Hearing that Ursulla Khan of Zedah was showing symptoms of disaffection, and had refused to let his son Bahram Khan send in some 80 horse which he kept up, I sent him a purwanna to attend on me forthwith and detached a party of police to bring him in by force should he not promptly obey, instructing Bahram Khan to aid the party.

Had a long conversation with Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, who evinces much gratitude for my forbearance in not carrying out the repeated orders of the Durbar to confiscate a portion of his jageer in liquidation of some old claim against him.

Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, with all the Ghorechurra officers waited on Lieutenant Nicholson with their nuzzurs, which were returned. I spoke to the Sirdar to keep his eyes open.

Received a letter from Colonel Boodh Singh reporting that he had got the boats ready and asking for orders as to the withdrawal of his two companies from the Fort of Attock and Ghebe district. Directed all to stand fast for the present.

29th April.—Transacted business with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh, civil and military.

The Regular Troops being all paid, commenced disbursing to the Ramgoles.

Received intelligence from Lieutenant Herbert, 18th N. I., that he was under orders to join me as Drill Instructor with six native non-commissioned officers. I sent him a route which would bring him here in 14 days and requested him to move with all practicable expedition.

Inspected a Resallah of the Shere Dragoons joined from escort duty with Lieutenant Nicholson; found many bad horses among them.

Deputed Lieutenant Bowie this morning to visit the Fort of Jumrood to post the new gun and inspect the magazines; he returned about 9 A.M. and reported all right, and the garrison on the alert.

Mr. Thompson has taken Lieutenant Nicholson under treatment, and I am happy to say he already seems better.

An artilleryman, late in Dost Mahomed Khan's service, applied to me to be entertained, saying he had left from receiving no pay. I declined taking him.

Hearing that the Jageerdar Ghorechurras borrowed horses to stand muster, I have had them all branded to prevent such tricks in future.

There is no intelligence worth recording from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 18.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 30th April, to Saturday, the 6th May 1848.

30th April 1848.—I have granted Colonel Jey Singh, Artillery, three months' leave to proceed home for the benefit of his health, and have directed him at the expiration of that period, should he not be restored, to wait upon the Resident for an extension.

Received intelligence from Lahore of the murder of Messrs. Agnew and Anderson at Mooltan, of the detachment of Sikh troops having gone over to the enemy; this latter has not surprised me as under the circumstances I much doubt if our own sepoys would have acted otherwise. I trust signal punishment will quickly follow Moolraj's treachery.

The news appears greatly to disturb Colonel Alla Singh, but he seems constitutionally timid ; still he told me to avoid making any difference in my mode of carrying on work or intercourse with the troops : good and sound advice.

1st May 1848.—The troops were inspected by Commanding Officers on their respective parades.

The weather having become too hot for evening parades and drill, I have excused them for the present, much to the gratification of the troops.

I was happy to see General Elahee Buksh with the other officers at my Durbar this morning; he looks so ill that I advised his keeping at home for another week: he is a willing but not over-wise man, wants consistency and energy.

Heard from Captain Abbott in Huzara that he was all right in that quarter; the reported Puklee inroad had turned out nothing. He had sent a company from Colonel Baboo Pandah's Regiment to relieve Boodh Singh's in the Fort of Attock.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh and Colonel Ruttun Singh.

2nd May.—Received five prisoners from Sirdar Lall Singh, Moraria, sentenced severally to three years' imprisonment; one prisoner is reported to have escaped *en route*.

Paid the 1st and 2nd Ramgole Battalions yesterday and this morning.

Hussein Khan, Gurdezy, our pensioner, who has been waiting many months here in hopes of getting his family from Cabul, and had almost given it up in despair, tells me that he hears the Ameer has at length relented and that they are now *en route* to Peshawur.

Ursulla Khan, Chief of Zedah, sent for by me on hearing that he was about to create a disturbance, arrived this morning bringing with him 80 horse which he has kept up with a view to plunder the country. I have located him in my compound till I can make an arrangement for his disposal.

Moollah Allie Ahmed, who accompanied Sirdar Lena Singh to Calcutta, paid me a visit, introduced by a note from the Resident.

3rd May 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie inspected General Elahee Buksh's and Commandant Sekunder Khan's Troops of Artillery; we found ten guns fully horsed and equipped, the remaining two are on command at Bunnoo.

After the parade we visited the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur and posted three guns of those which lately arrived from Lahore.

Paid the garrisons of Shahmeer Ghur and Barrah.

Purwannas arrived from the Durbar to the Governor, Sirdar Kahn Singh, and the Jageerdar Ghorechurra Sirdars, directing the latter to proceed forthwith and join Raja Shere Singh at Chicha Wutnee. Although this reduces my Cavalry by 260 sabres, and I have had no communication from the Resident on the subject, I have directed the order to be promptly obeyed.

The purwanna to the Governor adds that, if he requires more troops, he can send for Colonel Boodh Singh's Corps from Attock; this I think of doing when satisfied that the fort is safe with its present garrison and a new Thannadar is appointed. Lieutenant Nicholson tells me, and I can well fancy it, that the corps suffers much from being exposed at this season to the heat in tents.

4th May.—With Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie paid Sirdar Sultan Mahomed a visit at his garden house, which he has recently built in the Wuzeeree Bagh. Could the Durbar but see what sums he has laid out in its furniture, mirrors, chandeliers, etc., they I think would be satisfied that he has no evil designs towards the State. He was as usual profuse in professions of friendship towards us.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, which was numerously attended. Spoke to them about establishing a village police throughout the Province; in consultation with them prepared a short and simple Code for their guidance, which will be submitted for the approval of the Resident previous to proclamation.

Transacted civil and military affairs with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh.

I have been engaged in trying without success to find out the writer of a Persian letter to the Resident accusing Commandant Surmust Singh of Ghorechurras, late Thannadar of Govind Ghur, of treasonable

intents towards the State in conjunction with Maharaja Golab Singh. Sirdar Kahn Singh tells me that the Commandant is a very respectable character and not one likely to be engaged in such practices, and moreover that there is no good feeling between him and the Raja, consequent upon his having confiscated, in the time of Raja Jowahir Singh, a considerable amount of property of Golab Singh's.

I tried to ascertain from Durreah Khan of Adyzye whether the Commandant was accessory to his escape from Govind Ghur, but he would not disclose anything. My opinion is that the story is a fabrication throughout, for had the writer been, as he says, actuated by proper motives, he would surely have made his charge to me, thus courting investigation instead of stabbing in the dark.

5th May 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie inspected Futteh Khan's and Tara Singh's troops of Artillery. Six guns are effective, and four at Bunnoo ; two have been recast and will be effective when the carriages now in hand are finished.

I am happy to say a large stock of wood has arrived from Chuch and Kutchee, and 50 new hackeries from the latter place, so that we shall now soon get our gun carriages in hand. I purpose building one general workshop to be superintended by Lieutenant Bowie, only allowing artificers to proceed with the troops on field service. In like manner I have built a general grain store for the Artillery, by which I expect to feed the cattle better and at much less cost.

Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, reports that one of his Ghorechurra sentries was fired at last night ; he returned the fire, but without effect. I have told him to send out disguised rounds for some nights.

Paid the garrisons of Doaba and Hushtnuggur and transferred them to the forts of Khyrabad, Jehangheera and Nowshera.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh ; the latter is quite recovered.

6th May.—With Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie inspected Colonel Alla Singh's Troop of Horse Artillery and Jey Singh's Bullock Battery ; the latter was intended to be horsed, but seeing when at Lahore that my brother, Colonel Lawrence, had fixed that we should have one battery of this description, I transferred from other troops the heavy

guns and allotted them bullocks, and it is now a most serviceable battery of six guns.

Colonel Alla Singh had only four guns effective, two having been recast, their carriages are making up; a good number of horses are wanting to complete in all the troops. We can turn out 26 effective field guns exclusive of the six on command at Bunnoo.

Hussein Khan Gurdezy's family have arrived from Cabul. In sending them the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan has given good proof of his wish to continue on friendly terms with us, as many of his people were much opposed to their being allowed to come, the Syuds of Gurdezy in particular. From what I heard I did not expect to see them.

A report has come in from Nowshera of a corpse having been found hanging from a tree on the roadside; investigation has been directed.

Sirdar Kahn Singh brought me Surmust Singh, Commandant of Ghorechurras; the poor man is greatly distressed at the accusation against him. I soothed and told him I should report my disbelief of it.

The Jageerdar Ghorechurra Sirdars called to take leave; they march to-day pursuant to the Durbar's orders. I expressed my satisfaction at their and their men's conduct since they have been with me, and told them I should report the same to the Resident; they expressed their hope that on the completion of the present service they might be allowed to return to Peshawur.

I have no recent intelligence from the west; the Khyberees are said to be fighting among themselves, but I fancy with little bloodshed. We are quite quiet.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 19.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 7th, to Saturday, the 13th May 1848.

7th May 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with half-monthly present states. There are of all grades 4,000 present effective Regulars,

about 900 Ramgoles exclusive of 1,000 in garrison at the forts, and 500 Ghorechurras.

In talking to Colonel Alla Singh about the expediency of calling in Colonel Boodh Singh's Regiment at Attock he recommended me not, saying we had troops enough just now.

8th May 1848.—With Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie inspected the whole of the troops, Regular and Irregular, on Grand Parade; 26 guns fully equipped were in the field.

After the parade called the Colonels, Commandants and Adjutants to the front, talked to them a little, received their salutes and dismissed them.

Transacted civil and military matters with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh; the former read me a Circular letter from his father, Sirdar General Golab Singh, Bahadur, addressed to all the officers of the force calling on them to show by their vigilance, activity and attention to their duty and my wishes, their sense of what they owed to the British Government for all that had been done for them.

Alla Singh advised that this should not be given to the officers, as it might put it into their heads that we just now doubted them or were afraid of them; seeing the justness of his conclusion I acquiesced.

9th May.—Received letters from Mr. Cocks and Lieutenant Lumsden of the 5th instant from Lahore advising my sending Mrs. Lawrence to Lahore. Strange coincidence, at the same time a letter came in from Lieutenant Taylor at Bunnoo recommending I should send her to Kohaut under charge of the Barukzye Sirdars.

Replied that my sending her away just now would at once stamp us as being afraid and having no confidence in the troops or my position here, either of which would be detrimental to our cause; that I never looked to the dark side of things, and had been in many a worse position, and would still trust to Providence, by whom I had hitherto been so wonderfully supported.

Heard from Captain Abbott from Huzara; all quiet in that quarter, though he had detached a large portion of his troops to Chicha Wutnee under Sirdar Jhunda Singh.

By Lieutenant Lumsden's letter the Resident sanctions my raising a corps of Pathans, 8 companies of 75 men each, or 600, at a monthly cost of Rs. 5,700, the Colonels, Commandants and Adjutants to be taken from the Sikh troops. I shall accordingly proceed to enlist actively though quietly; such a corps may prove very useful.

A small body of horse as a personal escort would be very desirable. I feel the want of them now the Guides are away; the Sikh Cavalry are of little use to employ about the country in small parties.

Received the reports of the troops from General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Ruttun Singh; they are made as usual in my verandah.

Deputed Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie to visit the fort of Hushtnuggur, distant about 18 miles north-east on the summit of an oblong hill averaging from 1 to 200 yards in width by 300 long; it has originally been strong but for many years much in decay; it has no guns and the garrison is weak.

10th May 1848.—Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh, though not up to much, being suffering from low fever.

After talking to the other Colonels, Meer Jung Ali, Ameer Khan, Ruttun Singh and Mehtab Singh, I took Bhag Singh, Man, aside, and told him to be under no apprehension for the safety of his uncle, Sirdar Kahn Singh, during his captivity with Dewan Moolraj, etc. He asked if he might send one of his sowars disguised to bring intelligence. I replied he might, but that I did not see what good would result therefrom; that the man would certainly be discovered and some people might lead the Durbar to suppose had been sent to intrigue with the enemy; this appeared to satisfy him and he said he would give up the idea.

Wrote to Captain Abbott, Lieutenants Edwardes and Taylor. The latter wants me to send him a regiment; regretted I could not spare one, but said I would enlist and send 300 Ramgoles and 100 Khyberees; the first would do for his fort and the other for outpost duties, they having no objection to fight against their brethren in the faith.

Cazee Golam Khader, Vakeel of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, waited on me to request an interview for his Chief.

11th May 1848.—Though by no means well, held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, thinking that if I put it off, or deputed Lieutenant Nicholson, erroneous impressions might get abroad.

Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie rode round the several parades and saw the men all out at drill, which they seemed performing willingly and zealously.

General Elahee Buksh with Colonels Ruttun Singh, Mehtab Singh, Meer Jung Ali, Ameer Khan, and Ram Sahaie Singh, made their *salams* after receiving the morning reports.

I entertained 120 Ramgole recruits this morning for duty at Bunnoo.

Purwannas arrived from the Durbar recalling Mutsuddie Singh, the Thannadar of Attock, and Wuzeer Khan, the Commandant of Artillery, and appointing Goormukh Singh, ex-Thannadar of Govind Ghur, to the charge of the Attock. Previously to giving them out I sent for Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, and had a long conversation with him; he recommends Goormukh Singh strongly and vouches for his fidelity. I then sent for him and pointed out how proud he should be and sensible of the trust thus reposed in him; he expressed himself highly gratified.

He is the Sirdar mentioned erroneously under the name of Surmust Singh in my Diary of the 4th instant as being reported to the Resident in correspondence with Raja Golab Sing.

Had much conversation with Colonel Alla Singh, who declares the troops here are all well content and well disposed.

Heard from Captain Abbott wishing to know if four companies of Colonel Boodh Singh's Regiment could be spared him from Attock, to which I replied affirmatively.

12th May.—Transacted military and revenue matters with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh and afterwards saw several of the Commanding Officers. Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh is the one I least like among them; he never can look me in the face; he is not popular in his corps and is said to take money from the men.

Enlisted some 56 more Ramgoles; it is astonishing what a number of idle Punjabies and Poorbeas are hanging about.

Mr. Thompson acquaints me that Ramsay, the European adverted to in my Diary of the 18th August 1847, now an Adjutant in Sekunder Khan's Troop of Artillery, informed him that he overheard some of his men consulting a strolling fakeer as to which would be a propitious day for the Khalsas to rise; a book was opened, leaf turned up and the 13th of this month of *Jaith* and corresponding to the 22nd instant named.

Although little reliance is to be placed in anything Ramsay says I have told Alla Singh to ascertain the facts: if proved to be true and I can bring it home to the fakeer, I shall not hesitate to make an example of him.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan with his son Noor Mahomed Khan paid me a long visit and slightly hinting (for Colonel Mehtab Singh, Moraria, was present) at the reports of Sikh disaffection told me that he and all his were my bondsmen; that there was nothing under the sun he would not do for the British Government; and that he considered it was we who had released him from captivity and he only panted for an opportunity to prove in deeds, not words, his gratitude. I quietly thanked him, expressing my reliance on him, but that I had no idea we should ever require to put him to the proof. His honor, his ease, the enjoyment of his family, all he added were the results of our position in the Punjab, for that I must have well seen in the continued attacks made on him and his brothers by the Durbar what little he had to expect from them, and much more to a like effect.

13th May 1848.—Lieutenant Bowie looked at four troops of Artillery at exercise without guns, and reports favourably of their evolutions.

I paid the garrisons of Khyrabad, Jehangheera and Nowshera, which completes the payment of the Ramgoles for *Poh* and *Magh*.

Am selecting, in consultation with Colonel Alla Singh, Sikh officers for the new regiment of Pathans.

The two Hindoostanee Duffadars of the Guide Cavalry left with me by Lieutenant Lumsden as Drill Instructors for the Cavalry are making themselves very useful in bringing me intelligence of what passes in the Sikh lines; in this particular I greatly miss the Guides, for they were usually employed last year by me on this duty, and well they fulfilled it.

Ramsay tells me that General Elahee Buksh desired him to warn me that the Sikh regiments were not to be trusted. I trust the General is mistaken and only wants to enhance his own services. We must expect reports of all sorts to be rife just now. Our situation is certainly not an enviable one, having no escort of our own, but I never despair, hope to the last.

Two agents from Moolraj are said to have arrived and visited Colonel Ruttun Singh, one proceeded after the interview towards Cashmere, and the other to Mooltan. I do not credit it, but have set people to work to find out its truth or otherwise; whatever I do I must not appear to doubt the troops.

I have no intelligence from the west; there are few troops at Jellalabad and none nearer. A Khyber Chief offered to bring me as many thousands of his people as I liked, to which I replied, wait till they are wanted. Peshawurees' need would be the Khyberees' opportunity.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 20.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 14th, to Saturday, the 20th May 1848.

14th May 1848.—Wuzeer Khan, Commandant of Artillery in the Fort of Attock, presented himself this morning, and complains of the treatment he has experienced from Mutsuddie Singh, Thannadar. I have directed him to make out a statement, and told him that he should not have come to me, but have at once obeyed the Durbar's order and proceeded to Lahore.

Reports are current that Raja Golab Sing with a large army has gained a victory over the British troops at Lahore—false of course, circulated by some evil-disposed persons.

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor of the 6th instant, also from Captain J. Abbott; both mention continued reports of meditated risings among the troops.

15th May 1848.—The troops were inspected on their respective parades by Officers Commanding Regiments.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh; the latter tells me that he has no present cause to doubt the fidelity of the Sikh regiments, though from former experience he thought it as well to give me a caution through Ramsay; that should he observe any unusual movement in the Singh corps he had arranged that Colonel Ameer Khan's Nujeeb Regiment should possess themselves of the guns on the right flank (10) and the Mahomedan Regiment, Meer Jung Ali's, of those on the left (10); that on these regiments we might rely. I commended his zeal and requested him to keep a sharp lookout.

Last evening as my Head Moonshee was riding near the fort, passing some Akalies they opened out a volley of abuse on the "Feringhees," etc. I have desired him to point these men out the first opportunity; they are I suspect Dhurmurthies to a large amount; these I will confiscate if I get hold of them.

16th May.—Goormukh Singh, Commandant of Ghorechurras, appointed by the Durbar Governor of the Fort of Attock, started yesterday for his post; at his request I have allowed him to take five Ghorechurras and a personal Moonshee with him, subject to the Resident's approval. The post is an important one at all times and more especially now. I therefore deemed it expedient to comply with his reasonable request, and send him away pleased with me and himself.

Some Mahomedans complained last night that on the *Azan* being proclaimed two Ramgole sepoys abused them and said we will shortly teach you and the "Feringhees" to sing to another tune, etc. I directed Colonel Alla Singh to investigate the case and report the result.

We hear daily from Captain Abbott, who seems all right; he thinks many of his letters to Lahore are intercepted.

17th May.—After receiving the reports of the force had all the Commanding Officers up to pay their respects; talked to them for some time on Mooltan affairs, and told them to keep their eyes and ears open as to what went on among their men.

With Lieutenant Nicholson rode through the Ghorechurras' lines, the city and back by the Infantry Parades; all appeared to be going on as usual.

Under cover of giving ammunition to the troops raised for Bunnoo got seven maunds of powder and 30,000 musket balls into my house to be ready for any emergency.

I have enlisted 200 men for my new regiment and 300 for Bunnoo.

18th May 1848.—The force paraded for exercise on their respective parades.

Sirdar Kwaja Mahomed, Sultan Mahomed's eldest son, brought me a letter from Lieutenant Taylor of the 15th instant; all well, but still disturbed by rumors of intended risings. He has given the young Sirdar 20 days' leave.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which the affairs of Mooltan were freely discussed and the Durbar's recent Proclamation prohibiting, under pains and penalties, any of their subjects joining Moolraj. The Urbobs say a few Eusufzyes may be tempted to join his standard but no others from this quarter.

On the breaking up of the Durbar almost all of the Urbobs had private audiences with me, assuring me of their devotion, and that at any moment they and all their retainers were at my call. I applauded their loyalty and zeal and told them it should be remembered. One old Moollah of great repute told me his family consisted of 20 stout men, whom I might consider entirely my own.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh, who brought me a letter from his father, Sirdar Golab Singh, reporting his intended speedy departure to join me.

19th May.—The weather has become so excessively hot that there is no pleasure in riding out morning or evening.

A letter received last night from Captain Abbott mentions it had been reported that Goordut Singh's *Missul* of Ghorechurras, quartered at Puklee, had left their post and started for Mooltan.

Two men of Adyzye, the first march towards Kohaut, are said to have quarrelled about a bullock, drew their swords and killed each

other on the spot; the friends of one on hearing of it attacked the family of the other and cut to pieces one woman and six men; it is bootless to try and seize these miscreants by any ordinary means, so I intend to watch my opportunity and *chapaw* the village; it is said to be able to turn out 10,000 matchlocks, and from its vicinity to the hills is the refuge of all the bad characters of the district; the Sikhs hold it in great terror.

20th May 1848.—Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, calling on me while receiving the reports of the troops, and most of the Commanding Officers being present, I took the opportunity to explain the contents of the Resident's letter, No. 193 of the 15th instant, received last night, setting forth the proceedings in regard to the Queen-mother, etc.; they all expressed their entire concurrence with the necessity which had arisen for her banishment from the Punjab and praised the forbearance which had hitherto been shown her and our present clemency.

In connection with this subject I may as well record that, I am told, several people recently arrived from Lahore, talking about the execution of Colonel Kahn Singh, say that for the last month of his life not a day or night passed that he was not closeted for hours with Raja Shere Singh. It is a well known fact that during the Raja's government of this Province he employed Kahn Singh in most confidential matters; indeed on my arrival, with Goordut Singh, Mujeetea, he might be said to share its rule.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh. He has sentenced the two Ramgole sepoys mentioned in my Diary of the 16th as using seditious language, etc., to six months' imprisonment with hard labor in irons. I have given the like punishment to a Hindostanee sepoy of Colonel Ram Sahaie's Corps guilty of a similar crime.

Hearing that Wuzeer Khan, Commandant of the Attock Artillery, has a brother in a confidential situation with Dewan Moolraj, I have directed him to proceed forthwith to Lahore; it would not do to return him to Attock. I have promised that he shall have a fair hearing.

Reports are very prevalent of Raja Golab Singh's being in daily correspondence with the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan. I shall try and intercept some of the letters. He is likewise said to have emissaries about tampering with the Sikh troops; they would seem decidedly to look to him for countenance, if not support.

I continue to receive most friendly messages from the Khyber Chiefs, but merely give them verbal complimentary replies.

All continues quiet here and throughout the Province, though the Eusufzye Chiefs are not paying their revenue, and I feel assured are watching our proceedings towards Mooltan most attentively. I hope to pay them off yet.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 21.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 21st, to Saturday, the 27th May 1848.

21st May 1848.—The Ramgole levies (450) I have enlisted marched this morning under Dhurrum Singh, Commandant, for Bunnoo, each furnished with 20 rounds of ball ammunition.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan sends some horsemen to see them through the Kohaut district.

Heard from Captain Abbott, who, among other rumors, mentions that of the Cashmere ruler being in daily correspondence with Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan.

22nd May.—In consequence of the excessive heat, the troops paraded for inspection on their respective parades.

General Elahee Buksh with all the officers attended at my quarters after parade, and paid their respects. I had the proclamation relative to the Queen-mother's deportation read to them; they all expressed their entire approval of the measure.

Transacted revenue matters with Colonel Alla Singh; wrote to the Eusufzye Khans to send in their assets quickly to prevent the necessity of my employing troops, which I would rather avoid.

An extensive robbery took place in the city last night, in the house of Bheem Sein, Duftry. From the adjoining house a hole was made nto the room in which the Duftry kept his valuables; his box was opened, and from it 3,000 rupees worth of ornaments extracted. Strange to say the under part containing money was untouched; the Police are at work, tnd I trust will succeed in finding out the perpetrator.

23rd May 1848.—All the Colonels attended with General Elahee Buksh to make their reports and *salams.*

Commenced the issue of four months' pay to the Ghorechurras under Sirdar Kahn Singh, an order having arrived from the Durbar on the treasury for 24,000 rupees to be disbursed on this account.

Heard from Captain Abbott that Sirdar Goordut Singh's *Missul,* reported to have left its post for Mooltan, had returned, pleading in excuse the orders of their Chief and want of funds.

Yesterday was to have been our "Ides of March," the day named by Ramsay's Fakeer as the propitious one for the troops to rise! The tale must have been like most others we hear meant to alarm us merely. The 26th is the day Captain Abbott has heard named; it, I doubt not, will go off equally quietly.

24th May.—In my Diary of the 19th I noted the murder of a woman and several men at the village of Adyzye and of my intention to *chapaw* it as the only means of securing the murderers.

For some days after the occurrence, the perpetrators had absconded, but finding no steps were taken against them they returned, and for three nights had small pickets thrown out to give intelligence of the approach of troops: these were withdrawn on Monday night.

At an hour's warning Lieutenant Nicholson marched last night with Uttur Singh's Sikh Regiment, Ram Sahaie's Poorbeahs, and the Shere Dragoons, and 50 of the Jageer Horse, reached Adyzye at gun-fire, surrounded the village and secured the murderers with the Chief Mullik, and a quantity of arms; the surprise was so complete that no resistance was offered.

At two hours before daybreak I detached Colonel Ruttun Singh's Sikh Regiment, and the Khas Dragoons, with 100 Ghorechurras, in support of the main body, not that I apprehended Lieutenant Nicholson had not force sufficient, but as a precautionary measure; I also deemed it a good opportunity to feel my troops.

In all I succeeded to my utmost wish; the troops marched promptly and zealously, but Lieutenant Nicholson reports that the Sikh Regiment did not display their wonted activity in surrounding the village; while the Poorbeah Regiment exceeded his expectations.

Colonel Alla Singh and my Head Moonshee volunteered their services, and are reported to have been most useful. The Colonel is so at all times.

25th May 1848.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs ; all were most complimentary in their congratulations at the success of Lieutenant Nicholson's *chapaw*, the fame of which they declared would extend to Guznee! Never had the Adyzyes such a lesson read them. It may be remembered that the notorious freebooter Durreah Khan, who escaped from the fortress of Govind Ghur last year, is one of the Chiefs of this village: he was present at the Durbar looking unhappy, and winced considerably under the jokes of the Urbobs.

General Elahee Buksh and all the Colonels paid their respects. I took the opportunity to compliment Colonels Ruttun Singh, Uttur Singh, Bhaug Singh, and Ram Sahaie, on the conduct of their regiments.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor, dated the 19th instant. All was quiet with him ; he had entertained 900 Pathans.

We have daily letters from Captain Abbott abounding in rumors ; he has been suffering slightly from fever.

Yesterday and this morning, continued the issue of pay to the Ghorechurras, in presence of Sirdar Kahn Singh, and myself.

26th May.—General Elahee Buksh, and Colonel Ruttun Singh, with the several Commanding Officers, attended with the daily reports.

Transacted business with Colonel Alla Singh, who reports that his father, the Governor, will arrive on the 2nd or 3rd. I shall be glad to see the old man, for though we continue perfectly quiet here, yet should there be any *émeute*, his experience and popularity with the troops would be of great use.

Engaged for several hours in trying the Adyzye murderers. Sold by auction last evening their property confiscated to the State with that of some Syeds, who harboured and concealed them. This latter act of justice will have a good effect in showing these religious gentry that they can no longer carry out their Afghan code of screening and assisting felons.

27th May.—Completed this morning the issue of pay to the Ghorechurras, which leaves them still 4½ months in arrears.

Transacted civil and military matters with Colonel Alla Singh and General Elahee Buksh; ordered a General Parade of the troops for Monday.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan sent his Vaqueel to me last evening to inform me of his Candahar brothers having quarrelled, and fought an action, in which 700 men are said to have fallen; the report is confirmed by bazar rumor this morning, with the addition that the city of Candahar was beleaguered.

Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie looked at Ruttun Singh's and Meer Jung Ali's Regiments at exercise this morning, and were surprised at their steadiness under arms and their advance in line. I mentioned this to the Colonels to their evident gratification.

For some days the rumors have lessened, though some letters have been lodged in my petition box warning me to be on my guard against the Sikh soldiery; rather an amusing one came from the prisoners in jail, advising my releasing them that they might form my Body-guard!

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 22.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 28th May, to Saturday, the 3rd June 1848.

28th May 1848.—Nothing particular to note beyond our being all well and quiet. Heard from Captain Abbott, with whom all is well.

29th May.—The troops paraded this morning in Review order, the Ghorechurras, Shere Dragoons, Colonels Meer Jung Ali's, Ruttun Singh's, Mehtab Singh's, and Meer Khan's Regiments, at the Alli Murdan Cantonments, where with Lieutenant Bowie I inspected them; and the remainder at Suchet Singh's Chowny, *viz.*, the Khas Dragoons, Uttur Singh's and Ram Sahaie Singh's Regiments, were inspected by Lieutenant Nicholson, the Artillery joining their respective brigades.

After the inspection all the officers paid their respects.

Transacted civil business with Colonel Alla Singh, and received the reports of the troops from General Elahee Buksh.

30th May 1848.—Relieved the garrison of Jumrood, first giving the men proceeding two months' pay, which I advanced from the Treasury.

Colonel Alla Singh reported his Adjutant Hurry Singh, an old worn-out Hindostanee, as being insubordinate and refusing to obey him on parade. I have long since observed this man's unfitness; had him up and in presence of General Elahee Buksh investigated the case, which being fully proved, I ordered him to proceed at once to Lahore, and have recommended his discharge without pension; he has only served the State a few years, having joined from the Jummoo family's forces.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 24th instant is that the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan has determined to make another attempt to crush Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, who has recently rebuilt an old fort among the Aishans near Seh Baba, and collected a large force.

For this purpose, the Ameer's three sons with six *pultans* and six guns had left Cabul; the Ghilzie Chief is supported openly by some and secretly by all the other Khans, and is said to be confident in his position; the Sahibzadahs of the Aishans are all on his side.

Another of the Ameer's sons was about to move on Candahar; the troubles which had arisen there were said to be pleasing to the Dost who expected to be called on to mediate, which he would do to his own advantage.

A famine is reported to prevail at Bokhara, children selling a *tilla* each and grain one seer for the rupee.

Transacted civil and military business with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh.

A complaint has been lodged by a prostitute against Ramsay, the European whom I made Adjutant from Jemadar in the Artillery last year; he got drunk and treated her grossly. I directed General Elahee Buksh to investigate it, and it being fully proved have remanded Ramsay to his former grade; he is a worthless good-for-nothing fellow, and I should not be at all surprised to hear of his walking off to Mooltan.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor at Bunnoo, all well on the 23rd instant; he felt rather anxious for Edwardes, and had sent him what he could ill spare, a reinforcement of two guns with two companies of Infantry and 80 Bunoochee horse.

Captain Abbott's "Ides of March" passed off as quietly as did ours; he says the Sikhs are now looking eagerly to Bhaie Maharaj Singh's movements.

Detached yesterday at Abbott's requisition two companies of Infantry and 100 Dragoons to relieve General Mehtab Singh's Ghorechurras, at Attock, of the treasure for the pay of the troops.

One outlying picket of Meer Jung Ali's Regiment brought in two *Cossids* passing at night towards the Khyber, but they had only letters from merchants of the city for Jellalabad and Cabul.

1st June 1848.—Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie rode down the Infantry parades this morning, and expressed themselves much pleased with the evolutions; some of the regiments go through the Manual and Platoon very creditably.

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor of the 25th instant giving the gratifying intelligence of the success of Lieutenant Edwardes' Lions against Moolraj's troops at Dera Ghazi Khan. At one time I thought of firing a salute on the occasion, but then fancied it might be making too much of the Mooltan traitor and his cause.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, but heard nothing worth noting. I have previously mentioned their separately telling me that I had only to hold up my finger to have them, and followers to any amount, around me; I laughingly replied, I felt assured of their zeal and loyalty, but never contemplated putting it to proof.

One of the Sind Sagur prisoners, under sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labor, effected his escape while working in the grain magazine near my house, and one under-trial about the same time escaped from the jail in the city. I have confined the native officers and non-commissioned, with the sentries over them, for their gross negligence.

Transacted military and civil matters with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh. Sirdar Golab Singh has reported his arrival at Rawul Pindee.

At 6¼ P.M. experienced a smart shock of earthquake from north to south, lasting about ten seconds.

2nd June 1848.—I was delighted this morning to hear the trumpets of the Cavalry saluting, as they announced the arrival of the treasure. 1,83,000 rupees is safely lodged under my eye.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor of the 28th instant. Strange to say he received a letter from me of the 17th instant by dak through Wuzeerabad, while one of the 16th entrusted to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed had not arrived.

Our rumors are decreasing, and Moolraj and Mooltan are less openly talked of in the bazars and lines. The prompt execution of Colonel Kahn Singh and Moonshee Gungah Ram, with the deportation of the Ranee, has doubtless effected this.

Transacted business with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh.

I have hitherto been in the practice of sending petitions from the officers and soldiers seeking redress to the Resident, for transmission to the Durbar, or other authorities; of late these have been returned with Robakarees, directing that the parties should be told, in the first place, to lodge their complaints with the Adawluttees and Kardars, and failing to get redress from them, to submit them to the Assistant Resident, Lahore. On communicating these instructions to the Colonels they begged I would respectfully lay before the Resident that, up to the time of my arrival, they had been in the habit of sending their suits direct to the Durbar, from whom they had some chance of obtaining redress, but that when absent at the out-stations, they saw no chance for their applying to Adawluttees and Kardars; that the system of employing Vuqueels was new to them, and that they hoped if I could not send their cases to the Resident, I would forward them myself to the Adawluttees, who might pay attention to me, whereas to them they would not. I assured them I would be glad to meet their reasonable wishes to the utmost of my ability, and would make them known to the Resident.

3rd June.—Hearing that the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, Pohvindeah, was at Nowshera, and purposed arriving on Monday, I have ordered a Grand Parade of all the troops to receive him with due honors.

Visited, with Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie, the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur to inspect some damages it is said to have sustained from the

earthquake; they are trifling I am glad to say. Strange that the houses in the city, though many in a very dilapidated state, have not suffered.

One of the prisoners who escaped from the jail has been captured. I rewarded his captor with a present of five rupees, and ordered him to be well flogged.

A few days since the corpse of a man of the village of Hazar Khanee, adjoining the city, with a knife stuck through the breast bone and several sabre cuts, was brought to me. Suspicion attached to four men, whom I apprehended; two have confessed the deed and implicate a third; all are under trial.

Transacted business with General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh, and saw all the officers after parade, which I visited in the course of my ride.

I am happy to report that all is quiet in this Province; the people seem contented, the troops orderly and well under control.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 23.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 4th, to Saturday, the 10th June 1848.

4th June 1848.—Arranged with General Elahee Buksh, Colonels Ruttun Singh and Alla Singh the programme for the reception of the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, who is encamped five miles from the city. I purposely make it as impressive as possible; all the troops will be under arms.

5th June.—Slight rain fell last night and continued till morning, which cooled the air and laid the dust. At 4 A.M. the troops, Regular and Irregular, moved from their respective parades to the Lahore Gate of the city, from which they were formed into a street of single ranks for a mile-and-a-half, towards Attock.

At gun-fire with Lieutenant Nicholson, and Sirdars Sultan Mahomed Khan and Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, I proceeded nearly two miles in advance of the line of troops, where I met the Governor. After the

usual compliments, I took him into my *howdah*, and the *cortège* passed through the street formed by the troops, all presenting arms, bands playing, and the Artillery firing 33 guns on three points of the line, 11 at each, the last on the Governor descending from the elephant at his residence.

The old man looked well and was much gratified with the honors shown him; the officers and troops also seemed pleased; the former presented the usual Nuzzurs.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 28th ultimo merely gives an account of the Dost's preparation for a campaign against Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, and of his having reduced the force proceeding, consequent on receiving a submissive letter from the Ghilzie, and that he intended to send the extra troops towards Balkh, under Sirdar Golam Hyder Khan. Famine is said to exist to a fearful extent at Bokhara, and that the Ruler had expelled all strangers, himself with his troops proceeding against Khokand.

Sirdar Mahomed Ameen Khan, the Dost's fourth son, is mentioned as still intent on obtaining in marriage the daughter of Timour, Armenian, and had got into disgrace with his father, who declared he would protect the girl, and that the father might take her to Peshawur, if so disposed. Timour expressed himself content to remain under the shadow of the Ameer.

6th June 1848.—The Governor called this morning with most of the Colonels. I took the opportunity to express my satisfaction at their and their men's conduct during his absence, and presented his son, Colonel Alla Singh, with a brace of double-barrelled pistols.

I have directed Alla Singh to continue to perform the duties of Deputy Governor, subject to the Resident's approval, and have suggested that he be allowed the sum which my brother, Colonel H. M. Lawrence, sanctioned for Dewan Hakim Raie when performing this duty, *viz.*, 5,000 rupees per annum, quite little enough to keep him from peculation, the temptations to which are great in this region.

The regiments paraded for exercise this morning; the Artillery went through their evolutions without guns.

My new Pathan Regiment musters 500, and have commenced drill, at which they are very awkward.

I commenced this morning the issue of pay to the troops for the months of *Phagoon* and *Chait*, corresponding with February and to 11th March, beginning with the Khas Dragoons.

7th June 1848.—Lieutenant Herbert, appointed Drill-Instructor to the Troops at Peshawur by General Orders, 15th April, arrived this morning, having ridden from Attock during the night; he is late for the season of drill, but I shall employ him in instructing the officers, and a selected portion of the non-commissioned, so as to make them competent to teach their men. All appear anxious to learn.

Paid the Shere Dragoons this morning.

The Governor with Colonel Alla Singh, Colonel Ruttun Singh, and other Commanding Officers, waited on me and transacted civil and military business.

Towards evening the Governor sent for Mr. Apothecary Thompson, being laid up with an attack of fever, doubtless from the effects of his journey.

8th June.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs; they now come at sunrise on account of the heat; they congratulated me on the improved state of the country, owing to my stringent rule; they say a man may now sleep in peace and travel the province in safety; few think of carrying arms, whereas previous to my arrival not a man left his house without being fully equipped, and ready to slay, or be slain; the blood feuds too of years have now nearly ceased.

Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh waited on me with civil and military reports. I have fixed with the former Mondays and Fridays for the transaction of civil matters, as coming daily retards work.

Three troops of Artillery with establishments were paid this morning in presence of Lieutenant Bowie.

Captain Abbott reports his having confined a sepoy of Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment (Sikh) seen prowling about his tent, who represents his having obtained 1½ months' leave from me to visit Huzara; and that he had left his certificate at Peshawur. Captain Abbott observes truly that he does not think just now that I would give

such lengthened leave to so short a distance, and what had the man to do about his tent?

9th June 1848.—The Governor, with all the officers, called to be introduced to Lieutenant Herbert, to whom they presented Nuzzurs, which he returned.

With Colonel Alla Singh, I examined the accounts of the Province for the past year, 1904, previous to their being sent for audit to Lahore. In the item of grain and forage for the Artillery alone, though with an increased establishment of cattle, my arrangements have saved the State at least 15,000 rupees.

An intercepted letter with the seal of Golam Hyder Khan, the half-brother of the late Mahomed Akber, has been sent to me; the name of the person to whom it was addressed is obliterated, but I am promised it. After acknowledging the receipt of a communication announcing the massacre of Messrs. Agnew and Anderson, it observes the Sikhs must be discontented; if they will only make up their minds to follow Moolraj's example and destroy those at Peshawur, the writer is ready with all his troops to be quickly on the spot, etc. A copy of the letter goes to the Resident to-day.

The remaining three troops of Artillery and establishments were paid in Lieutenant Bowie's presence this morning.

10th June.—Lieutenants Nicholson and Herbert called on the Governor.

Colonel Ameer Khan's Regiment received pay this morning.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor, from Bunnoo, of the 5th instant, who mentions that, on the arrival of the Ramgole levies sent by me, he had been enabled to detach an Infantry Corps to Lieutenant Edwardes.

It was reported last evening that the widow of a Muzby Singh sepoy was preparing to become a *suttee*, and declared that if prevented she would poison herself. I directed her to be kept under surveillance for two or three days, by which time, it is to be hoped, she will think better of it.

I have released the Mulliks of Adyzye, confined since Lieutenant Nicholson's *chapaw*, taking from them a bond for further good behaviour

and promise in future to give up all offenders who may take refuge with them, under pains and penalties.

All continues quiet; the harvest has proved abundant, and weather favorable.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 24.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 11th, to Saturday, the 17th June 1848.

11th June 1848.—A batch of remounts for the Artillery, 96, arrived this morning from Lahore; they are said to have been 40 days *en route.*

12th June.—I excused the Grand Parade of the troops on account of the Hindoo festival of————————, likewise the issue of pay, and transaction of civil business in the Gor Khuttry.

The Cazee's and my own Court were open as usual, the establishment being Mahomedan.

13th June.—Rode with Lieutenant Nicholson through the city and round by the fort; confined a Ramgole sepoy for not saluting and staring me insolently in the face; he is a Hindostanee.

Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh's Regiment was paid this morning in presence of Lieutenant Herbert, who expressed his surprise at seeing so fine a body of men, and so well set up; it is a Nujeeb corps.

Paraded the horses which arrived on Sunday, and allotted them to troops under Lieutenant Bowie's superintendence; they are good cattle, but have arrived in wretched condition, from not having any clothing or equipment; more or less all are foot-sore, having been sent from Lahore without being shod; two died *en route* and one was left near the capital dead lame; it is surprising that any reached this; great blame attaches to Jowahir Mull.

The Governor with Colonels Alla Singh and Ruttun Singh called this morning and sat some time with me.

14th June.—Transacted business with the Governor and his son, Colonel Alla Singh.

Paid Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment.

Lieutenant Herbert commenced the drill of my new Pathan Corps, by putting them through the extension motions. Not deeming this necessary, I have told him to teach them their facings and to march correctly; the men are generally too old to be set up, and might be disgusted had they too much drill at first.

A sepoy of Colonel Ameer Khan's Corps in a fit of jealousy killed a woman in the city, with whom he had cohabited, and severely wounded another, escaping before the alarm was given.

15th June 1848.—Not being well, Lieutenant Nicholson held the Durbar of Urbobs, and transacted business with the Governor and Deputy.

I regret to have to record another murder last night in the city: the brother of a Havildar of the Ramgoles murdered his sister-in-law, plundering her of 60 rupees worth of ornaments, and effected his escape.

Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment received pay this morning. I have transferred a supernumerary Drum-major from this Corps to the new Pathan Regiment.

Received from Lahore intelligence of the rebel Bhaie Maharaj Singh being drowned in the Chenab, with 800 of his infatuated followers, and the seizure of the remaining 500.

On mentioning it to Sirdar Golab Singh, he shook his head and expressed doubts of the death of the Bhaie.

The intercepted letter from Golam Hyder Khan mentioned in my Diary of the 9th appears to have been addressed to one Mufty Zeyhoor, discharged by me last year from the Adawlut. I had his house searched, but did not get any paper of consequence; he has concealed himself. I have taken measures which I expect will shortly cause him to surrender.

16th June.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy. In taking the accounts of last year, 1904, I find that my reductions have saved the State no less than 1,84,000 rupees; this amount will be considerably increased in 1905, as many items of 1903, left unpaid by Sirdars Shere and Outar Singh, the Governors, were brought on the books of 1904. I have also since transferred 200 Ramgoles to Bunnoo, which will cause a considerable saving under this head.

A Kafila with merchandize from Cashmere and Peshawur was plundered in the Khyber yesterday. I am told that were I to direct the

Urbobs of Khuleel and some Syuds who live in the vicinity to interest themselves, the property might be recovered; but my instructions precluding me from any interference in Khyber affairs, I declined doing anything. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan is said to be a sufferer.

The Sirdar, with his son, Noor Mahomed Khan, paid Lieutenant Herbert a visit this evening; he tells me that his Candahar brothers have made up their quarrel, though they are still anything but friendly towards each other.

Consequent on the approach of the rains, and not requiring Boodh Singh's Regiment to remain any longer at Attock, I have directed the corps to return to their cantonments at Hussun Abdall.

17th June 1848.—Announced to Sirdar Golab Singh to make known to the troops that the Resident had sanctioned my transmitting their petitions to the several Adawluttees and Kardars, likewise that he had approved and forwarded to the Durbar my recommendation of Colonel Alla Singh for the situation of Deputy Governor.

Heard that Colonel Jey Singh of the Artillery, to whom I gave sick leave, had hung himself.

About 150 men having joined from leave of absence I have sanctioned a like number being allowed to proceed to their homes and others to go as they drop in.

The Commandant of Ruttun Singh's Regiment, Sahib Singh, presented a petition stating that his house had been destroyed by Messrs. Cocks and Lumsden, and his property seized. I expressed my regret and fears that it was too late to do anything, but that he might, as it was his turn, proceed on leave and submit his case. Colonel Ruttun Singh observed he thought the English never punished the innocent or destroyed villages wholesale. Quite true I replied, but we are constrained at times to adopt Sikh customs, however repugnant to us, when dealing with Sikh rebels.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 10th gives little of interest beyond the old story of Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, being compelled to fly to the hills, on the advance of the Ameer's troops, and of their having possessed themselves of his fort.

A fanatical Syud, with a hundred followers, had come from Guznee, and fixed himself in the *Musjid* of Jubber Khan, giving out that he was

commissioned by Emam Maindee to wage war with infidels, and that his sword had been given him by the Emam. This creating a stir in the city, crowds flocking to him, the Ameer sent for him ; on his refusing to attend, troops were sent, who forced him into the presence. The Ameer told him he was a fool or drunk with opium, and had him confined. A report is current that Herat was besieged by the Asufoodoula. I had previously heard that the Dost's treatment of this holy man had caused the late earthquake !

We are all quiet here, though the Sikhs still look longingly towards Mooltan, and say that British rule in the Punjab will only last two months. Colonel Meer Jung Ali, I regret to say, is very ill ; Mr. Thompson attends him.

On the 16th completed the issue of pay to the Regular Troops, ending with Meer Jung Ali's Regiment.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 25.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 18th, to Saturday, the 24th June 1848.

18th June 1848.—Directed a Grand Parade of all the troops to-morrow.

In the evening with Lieutenant Bowie called on the Governor at the Gor Khuttry, driving through part of the city, which was much crowded.

Gave orders for the execution at 10 A.M. to-morrow of Mahomed of Akora, for the murder of two girls and plunder of their ornaments.

19th June.—With Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie at sunrise inspected the troops of all arms in Review order under Sirdar Golab Singh, Pohvindeah, and Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea.

After the inspection received the principal officers in Durbar, and complimented them on the appearance and good conduct of the troops. Colonel Kahn Singh, Rosa, of the Khas Dragoons, and Commandant Futteh Khan of Artillery, son of General Elahee Buksh, reported their return from leave.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy in the cool of the morning, and talked over the defection of the Churunjeet Dragoons.

The execution of the murderer Mahomed took place this morning in presence of some thousands of spectators; the body will hang all day, and be interred to-morrow.

20th June 1848.—Drove with Lieutenant Nicholson last evening across country; the weather has taken an agreeable change.

Colonel Ruttun Singh waited on me with the reports of the force; 50 more leave-of-absence men have returned.

Drove Mrs. Lawrence through the city and round by Raja Suchet Singh's cantonment.

One of the principal shroffs was robbed last night by two of his own servants, who on being apprehended confessed, and pointed out where they had concealed the booty, a bag of 1,350 rupees. Tried and sentenced them to five years' imprisonment with hard labor.

21st June.—Colonel Ruttun Singh waited on me with the reports of the troops.

Received a Robakaree from Lieutenant Edwardes, requiring me to send lead *viâ* Attock, but not mentioning the quantity.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor to the 15th instant enclosing a letter from Lieutenant Edwardes; all well with both these officers: the former mentions having discovered an emissary of Moolraj's among the levies I sent him.

The Mufty, Abdul Zeyhoor, Golam Hyder Khan's correspondent, is reported to have fled to the Khyber, so that there is little chance of getting him. I have confiscated his jageer and property.

22nd June.—Though by no means well, held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, who report all quiet within their respective districts; they laughed at the idea of Hyder and the Cabul troops being able to do anything in this quarter. His brother Akber, said they, could do nothing in troubled times; what could he do now that all is quiet and the people happy and contented?

The Governor and Deputy with Colonels Ruttun Singh, Mehtab Singh, etc., were with me for some hours: the purwanna appointing Colonel Alla Singh Deputy has not yet arrived.

An Anglo-Asiatic proceeding towards Cabul was stopped by the Adjutant of the Fort of Jumrood, and sent in a prisoner. When taken before the Governor he insolently demanded to know why he had been seized, and refused to give any account of himself. As I was unwell he was examined by Lieutenant Nicholson, who with difficulty elicited from him that he had been a writer in the Lieutenant-Governor's Office at Agra, and in the Lahore Residency; he called himself a Cashmeree, but when directed to converse with one of that country confessed that he was an Eurasian, his name John Heyland, and that he was proceeding to Cabul to see the country. I have ordered him to be detained pending a reference to Lahore; he had no letters in his possession, but a map of India, an English book, and 26 rupees.

Colonel Boodh Singh writes me from Attock that his jageer has been confiscated, and begs me to write to the Resident. The Colonel with three companies of his regiment may be said to hold the Fort of Attock; this would seem to be a strange time for the Durbar to irritate a man of his influence and connexion in the army. I have directed him to return with his regiment to their cantonments at Hussun Abdall.

Sirdar Kahn Singh reports a Ghorechurra, Chait Singh, Attariwalla, to have refused to proceed on command. I directed him to be dismissed the service in front of all the Ghorechurras paraded for the purpose.

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor of the 18th instant, giving copy of one from Lieutenant Edwardes; all well with them.

23rd June 1848.—Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy.

All the Commanding Officers attended with men of their respective regiments recommended for promotion, many of whom had been acting in the superior grades without increased pay, from two years to as many months.

I directed promotion rolls to be prepared for transmission to Lahore, and that they should receive the advanced pay of their respective ranks pending confirmation from head-quarters; this system

of making men act for years on reduced pay, which extensively prevails in the Sikh Army, is injurious to its discipline, and creates discontent.

24th June 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the force; he tells me that the jageer of Colonel Boodh Singh has not been confiscated; that it was a mistake of some of his family, who wrote to him reporting it.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 19th instant reports return of Sirdar Mahomed Ameen Khan with three *pultans*, four guns and sowars, bringing with them the youngest son of Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, as hostage; they had destroyed the fort recently repaired by Mahomed Shah Khan, who had fled to the hills.

The Sirdars Mahomed Azeem Khan and Walli Mahomed Khan had returned from Khoolum, leaving a garrison in the fort. An ambassador with presents had been sent by the Walli of Khoolum to the Ameer, entreating assistance in protecting them against the ruler of Balkh; a famine prevailed in their land.

The Ameer had in consequence ordered a large force under his sons, Golam Hyder, Akrum, and Mahomed Ameen Khan, to proceed towards Turkistan.

Dissensions continue to prevail among the Sirdars of Candahar.

Intelligence had reached Cabul from Lahore of the execution of two Sikh officers and of the confinement of many others, and that the English had postponed attacking Mooltan for five months, and the troops of Moolraj had possessed themselves of Leïah.

I am happy to say all is quiet here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 26.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 25th June, to Saturday, the 1st July 1848.

25th June 1848.—Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor, without date, announcing his having heard from Lieutenant Edwardes, dated the 16th instant from right bank of the Chenab, within hearing of the action

which, as he wrote, was going on between Moolraj's and the Bhawalpore troops. He hoped to get boats by the evening; his feelings may be conceived but cannot be described, knowing too as he does what may not be the result, should the enemy gain the victory. We too are not a little concerned in the matter.

At 10 P.M. the post from Lahore brought a few lines from Mr. Cocks to Lieutenant Nicholson, communicating the joyful intelligence of Lieutenant Edwardes having defeated the rebels, taking six guns. I immediately caused Colonel Alla Singh to write the Governor to have royal salutes fired to-morrow at sunrise from the Forts of Shahmeer Ghur, Jumrood, and the Gor Khuttry, and to give the fullest notice of our success to the troops.

26th June 1848.—The troops paraded this morning on their respective parades.

After the parade the Governor with all the Commanding Officers waited on me with their congratulations on the important victory; they seemed fully sensible of the importance to them of this action.

Transacted civil business with the Governor and Deputy; the old man is quite elated at the good news, and truly says it was well there was a Sahib, and such a Sahib as Edwardes, with the Sikh troops.

In the evening I drove the Governor home, he having spent the day at his old house adjoining mine, which, he says, he intends to do every Monday, to enable him to see more of me.

27th June.—With Lieutenants Bowie and Herbert paid Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan a visit, to introduce the latter. The Sirdar was as usual most polite and profuse in his expressions of attachment to us, and gratitude at being through our means restored to his ancient home.

On Sunday, Ramsay, the European, got drunk and kicked up a disgraceful row in a prostitute's house in the city. I have ordered him into confinement and will recommend his being sent out of the country; he is an habitual drunkard and there are no hopes of his reform; such a man being here reflects disgrace upon us.

The daughter of the Hindoo bunneah, mentioned in my Diary of the 1st of March as having been carried off by some Afreedees to their hills, has at length been restored, but not till the Khuleel Urbobs, on

whom I laid the onus of her recovery, paying 240 rupees for her. I am happy to say she is uninjured.

28th June 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh waited on me with the reports of the force,—700 men have joined from leave.

Received by *cossid*, from Lieutenant Taylor at Bunnoo, a letter from Lieutenant Edwardes of the 19th instant, giving an account of his important victory: sent it off by post to Captain Abbott.

I omitted to mention that the Killadar of the Fort of Jumrood mistaking the order for a salute of 21 guns, fired that number from each gun, so that, there being four, 84 rounds were fired, which must have astonished his neighbours in the Khyber.

I am happy to report the recovery of Colonel Meer Jung Ali, thanks to the skill and attention of Mr. Thompson. This officer's duties are very arduous: in the month of May he had not less than 187 patients under treatment, 69 of whom were from the Sikh Force and many of the others from Teerah in the Khyber, Swat and Bajore.

29th June.—The warrant from the Durbar appointing Colonel Alla Singh Deputy Governor arrived last night.

At my Durbar of Urbobs this morning, in their presence and that of Commanding Officers of Corps, I had the warrant read under a salute of seven guns and presented the Deputy Governor with a *khillut* of 15 *parchas*, to the amount of 820 rupees, and took the opportunity to point out to the officers that such was the reward of good service to the State.

A sepoy, Hindustani, of Colonel Ramsahaie's Regiment, was murdered last night, at the village of Surrozye, about three miles from Suchet Singh's cantonment to the east of the city. It seems the man was in the habit of displaying money which he carried about him; the corpse was found doubled up and concealed in a field near the village. Two men have been apprehended and are under trial, with strong suspicions against them.

Last night a Chokedar in the gardens, south of the city, had his ear cut off by a thief, who escaped.

Another Mufty, a near neighbour of Zeyhoor, being reported in correspondence with Cabul, I sent to apprehend him and search his

house, but the bird had flown ; he is said to have started in the morning for that capital, having first regularly emptied his house. I have sent four Khyberees after him.

30th June 1848.—Transacted revenue matters with the Deputy Governor and examined into some cases of *Dhurmurths* granted by Rajah Shere Singh on leaving. It is difficult to discover on what grounds he granted them; such as were given to non-residents at Peshawur I have resumed.

Lieutenant Herbert commenced the drill of the Sikh troops with a squad of the returned leave-of-absence commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The weather is too hot for much work.

I have the troops out now only twice a week,—once for inspection, and once for exercise,—a degree of consideration very acceptable to them.

We continue to hear daily from Captain Abbott, with whom all is well.

1st July.—This morning and yesterday I was engaged in making advances of pay to my new Pathan Corps.

Colonel Ruttun Singh waited on me with the reports of the force.

Many of the rejoined leave men having represented that they have been delayed from three to four days at the ferry of Bet-ke-Puttun on the Beas from not being allowed to cross with their swords, I have directed all the leave certificates in future to be brought to me for countersignature, and would suggest that instructions be sent to the several ferries to pass all men producing such certificates.

I had a royal salute fired from the fortress of Attock in honor of Lieutenant Edwardes' victory.

Intelligence from Cabul of the 23rd ultimo mentions the receipt by the Ameer Dost Mahomed of a letter from Yar Mahomed Khan of Herat, congratulating him on his intention of possessing himself of Turkistan, and that should he succeed it would bring them within five days of each other, and enable them to aid each other ; that if the Ameer so wishes, he would advance with troops on his side, while the Cabullees moved on them and so join at Balkh. The Herat ruler had possessed himself of Jorwin and besieged Lash.

Gool Mahomed Khan, Tokee, son of the late Shahaboodeen Khan, had sent from the vicinity of Khelat-i-Ghilzie tenders of allegiance to the Cabul Ameer consequent upon the excessive exactions of the Candahar Sirdars.

The Ameer was making great exertions to send two armies to Balkh,—one under Golam Hyder Khan by the route of Chankar and Kundooz, and the other by Bamian and Mazar-i-Shereef under Mahomed Akrum Khan.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 27.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 2nd, to Saturday, the 8th July 1848.

2nd July 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh, Man, attended with the reports of the force. Issued orders for the troops to parade near their respective cantonments, on account of the great heat.

3rd July.—With Lieutenant Herbert I proceeded to the cantonment of Rajah Suchet Singh and inspected the Khas Dragoons, Uttur Singh's and Ramsahaie Singh's Regiment, with Fatteh Khan's and Tara Singh's troops of Artillery.

Lieutenant Nicholson inspected the remainder of the force in the Alli Murdan Cantonment, *viz.*, General Elahee Buksh's, Secundur Khan's, Alla Singh's and Jey Singh's Artillery, the Shere Dragoons, Ghorechurras and Ruttun Singh's, Mehtab Singh's, Meer Khan's and Meer Jung Ali's Regiments.

All were in Review order and looked well.

After the parade the Governor with all the Commanding Officers paid ther respects.

Transacted business with the Deputy Governor.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor from Bunnoo, the 26th instant; all quiet and well there.

4th July.—Consequent on the receipt of instructions from the Resident, I directed the Eurasian mentioned in my diary of the 22nd

ultimo, under the name of John Heyland, to proceed to Lahore; but as he begged to be allowed to remain in the city I consented, pending a further reference; he seems a poor half-witted creature.

Having heard from Captain Abbott that a Bhaie named Atchera Sing had been for some time in Huzara stirring up the troops; that he had been visited by Sirdar Chuttur Sing, Attariwalla (and treated with much distinction), who, however, denied having even seen him, and that he meditated visiting Peshawur, I directed him to be seized, which was done to-day, not however till he had been eleven days in the city and cantonments. I have confined him pending further information. Lieutenant Nicholson's riding past some caves and seeing several priests and people about them led to his detection. He admits having left Huzara a fortnight ago; that he was invited to proceed there from Rhotas by a deputation of a Grunthee and two sepoys of Colonel Richpaul's Regiment, and that Sirdar Chuttur Sing did visit him, and sent men with him to this. He admits that Richpaul's Regiment is in a disaffected state and that Warriam Singh, Thannadar of the Fort of Samalkund, deputed a Ramgole sepoy to accompany him; he denies, however, having come with any evil intent: pure curiosity to see Peshawur was his only motive he says.

Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports and General Elahee Buksh brought two glandered horses, which I directed to be shot.

Lieutenant Bowie, I much regret to say, is seriously indisposed, and will, I fear, have to leave on medical certificate.

5th July 1848.—Made Bhaie Atchera Sing over to the Deputy Governor to be confined in the Gor Khuttry. I have seized another priest, formerly a Nishanchee in the Ramgoles, who now styles himself Sut Gooroo jee.

I have discovered another Moolah to be in the pay of Sirdar Golam Hyder Khan, for whom he furnished information; his preparing for flight led to detection.

Received the reports of the force as usual from Colonel Ruttun Singh.

6th July 1848.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which several of the Eusufzye Chiefs attended. I am happy to say these men are paying up their arrears. This is the first year they have ever been realized without the aid of troops.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy. The Head Duftries, one Ramdoss and his son Ajeet Singh, have been so long in the habit of mystifying the accounts to their own benefit that I find it no easy matter to unravel them. I suspect I shall have to turn these men out, ere I can hope to put things straight; they are said to be in the pay of the Urbobs and Kardars.

An old Jageerdar, Immadoodeen, died a few days since, aged 90.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan sent me two letters from the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan to his address, I fancy because they contained nothing.

7th July.—Transacted revenue matters with the Governor and Deputy; the latter reports a seizure of contraband salt.

I have directed 50 returned leave-of-absence Ramgoles to proceed *viâ* Attock and Kala Bagh to Bunnoo, to join their *baraderies* under Jewun Singh, and have taken this opportunity to send 18 sepoys' palls, which have been made up at Rhotas for Colonel Sobhan Khan's Regiment with Lieutenant Edwardes. I have not ordered any lead to be sent, as I conceive ere it could reach Lieutenant Edwardes will have taken the Fort of Mooltan.

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor enclosing one from Lieutenant Edwardes of the 24th ultimo; the former mentioned the arrival of Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, and that he was about to make over the charge of Bunnoo to him—an arrangement which would seem to me to be very unpalatable to the Sikh troops.

8th July.—The Governor took the reports of the troops this morning at his house adjoining mine and afterwards called with all the Commanding Officers.

The *Lahore Akhbar* in an Extra announces a second victory of Lieutenant Edwardes over the Mooltan troops, who had lost 11 guns; but as neither Mr. Cocks or Lieutenant Hodson, from whom I heard by the same post mention it, I consider the report doubtful.

Under instructions from the Resident, the European Ramsay will proceed to-morrow towards Lahore under charge of a Jemadar and ten sepoys proceeding on leave-of-absence.

I have no recent intelligence from the west ; all is quiet here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 28.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 9th, to Saturday, the 15th July 1848.

9th July 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports of the force.

I started the European Ramsay under an escort for Lahore, giving the Jemadar in command 10 rupees subsistence for the road ; the residue of his pay I have directed to be disbursed among his creditors ; his two wives remain here, and I have taken charge of his infant girl, leaving her with her mother for the present.

A note from Mr. Cocks received this evening announces Lieutenant Edwardes' second victory : directed royal salutes to be fired at sunrise to-morrow from the two cantonments and Fort of Shahmeer Ghur.

10th July.—The troops were inspected on their respective parades. Sunrise proclaimed by their royal salutes to the force (*sic*) the second victory gained by Lieutenant Edwardes and the Khalsa troops over the Mooltan rebels.

The Governor with all the Commanding Officers waited on me, when we passed mutual compliments and congratulations on the good news.

Transacted revenue and judicial matters with the Governor and Deputy.

The Kardar of Khalsa hearing that eight men of the village of Kooshmakum had started to join Moolraj, seized their families, which brought them quickly back. I have ordered them into confinement.

Commenced this morning the issue of pay for the months of *Phagoon*, *Chait*, *Bysak* and *Jaith* to the Ramgoles ; paid the 1st Regiment and Shahmeer Ghur Artillery.

A purwannah arrived from the Durbar to the Governor directing 18,888 rupees to be disbursed from the Treasury for the pay of the Ghorechurras for the months of *Magh* and *Phagoon*. As the payment of the Ramgoles will take all the assets in hand, I told the Governor to report the same to the Durbar.

The sentence of death passed and confirmed by the Resident on Abdoola and Shahdad, residents of the village of Hazar Khanee, for the murder of Mahomed Gouse, was carried into effect at 9 A.M.; an immense concourse of people attended.

Colonel Meer Jung Ali got a bad fall from his horse this morning ; he is attended by Mr. Thompson.

11th July 1848.—Colonel Ameer Khan's Nujeeb Regiment paraded this morning, and went through some evolutions under Lieutenant Herbert's superintendence pretty creditably. I have directed a regiment to parade every morning for this purpose till further orders.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 3rd instant reports that the march of the troops under Sirdars Golam Hyder and Akrum Khan for Turkistan is postponed. Owing to the dearth in that quarter, caused by the ravages of locusts, grain was not procurable at any price. It was contemplated by the Ameer to send two confidential men to Mazar-i-Shereef to report on the state of affairs and on the practicability of provisioning troops.

The seizure of Jorwin and siege of Lash by Yar Mahomed of Herat is confirmed. Saloo Khan, Chief of the latter, whose daughter is married to the son of Sirdar Kohendad Khan of Candahar, had demanded aid from that quarter, and Kohendad Khan had applied to the Cabul Ameer.

Sirdar Akrum Khan with some troops was to be sent to Jellalabad to watch our proceedings, as the arrival of Nizamoodowla Mahomed Oosman Khan at Peshawur, and the rumours from Loodihana of the Suddozye Princes following shortly, had created a sensation ; this too is supposed to be the real reason for the postponement of the march on Turkistan.

There had been a fight between the followers of Sirdar Mahomed Osman Khan and Sirdar Nuzzer Mahomed Khan, in which several men were wounded.

At length I have made an amicable arrangement between Ursulla Khan, Chief of Zedah, and his son Bahram Khan, by which the former agrees to abstain from all interference in the management of the district, receiving the village of Zedah, his original patrimony, in jageer. I dismissed him with honour, after reconciling him to his son.

I started Bhaie Atchera Singh and Ram Singh, Grunthee, this morning under a guard of Nujeebs (Mahomedans) for Lahore, and directed on crossing the Attock they should take the route of Ghebe and Ramnugger; this I did in consultation with Sirdar Golab Singh.

12th July 1848.—Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment paraded for exercise this morning.

Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports of the force.

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor of the 7th, brought by Zeyhoor Khan, son of Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan, who has been summoned in consequence of the severe illness of his wife.

Hearing that Sultan Mahomed had written to the Cabul Ameer an account of the seizure of Golam Hyder Khan's letter and my proceedings thereon, and had told him to send no letters to him except through me, I wrote the Sirdar and told him that I had no wish to see his correspondence; that he might write and receive what letters he wished, and that I requested he would tell his brother so, and that he would forward a copy of the intercepted letter of Hyder Khan's for the Dost's information, who would be able to judge whether it was a fit production or not; that for my part I cared not how many Cabul intelligencers were here as long as they adhered to facts; and that had not the Mufties Zeyhoor and Hyder fled, the chances are that no harm would have happened to them: having fled it became necessary to confiscate their property.

Sirdar Mehtab Singh, Mujeetea, reports the arrival at Rawul Pindee of the pay of the force for the months of *Jaith* and *Harh*, and requests an escort may be sent to Attock to relieve his from Pindee.

13th July.—Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment paraded for exercise.

The 2nd Ramgole Regiment, the Artillery and garrisons of Shahmeer Ghur and Barrah have been paid.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which the Governor and Deputy attended, after which transacted business with the Governor.

Most of the Colonels attended to pay their respects as did Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea.

The Colonels Ameer Khan and Ramsahaie Singh, Commanding the Nujeeb Battalions, presented a petition from their men representing that deductions were made for clothing, which they never got. I replied that their case should be reported to the Resident and in the meantime the deductions should be suspended.

14th July 1848.—This being a holy-day there was no parade.

The Governor and Deputy called and transacted revenue affairs.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan with his son, Kwaja Mahomed, paid me a visit and produced a letter from the Ameer Dost Mahomed on the subject of the intercepted letter of his son, Golam Hyder, in which he says, " I have received your communication. Who is Moolraj that he should attempt to cope with the British ? ; as he has acted so will he be punished. What you tell me of the Sahiban's acts towards me, are they not known to all ? As long as I live there shall be no diminution of my friendship for them. In regard to my son Hyder's having written to Moofty Golam Hyder, I knew nothing of it, but having asked him he acknowledged that the Mufty is his servant, and it being customary to have news-writers at different places, the English having theirs now at Cabul, which is well known to him, he employed this man, but never wrote a line against the English ; if he did, let it be produced." Since the British and Sikhs became opposed to each other, the Ameer adds he has never in word or deed done aught against the former, and he begs his brother to impress this on my mind, and that he is entirely devoted to us. It is a fact worthy of notice that the *handwriting* of this *disclaimer* is the exact counterpart of that of the offensive letter !

Detached an escort of 108 Sowars to Attock to receive the Treasure *en route* from Rawul Pindee.

15th July.—Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment paraded for exercise this morning.

The reports of the force were brought as usual by Colonel Ruttun Singh. Nearly 250 men have exceeded their leave; I have consequently directed that as they return they be brought to me that I may make an example of some for the benefit of all.

Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan waited on me and pleaded that he could only at present pay 4,000 of the 7,000 rupees advanced by Lieutenant Edwardes to his sowars. Knowing that he is greatly embarrassed, I acceded to his request to defer the payment of the balance for two months.

Goormukh Singh, Thannadar of Attock, reports Bhaie Atchera Singh with his escort crossed the river on the 13th instant.

News-letter from Cabul with intelligence to the 10th came in late at night, but contains nothing of importance. Contents will be given in my next Diary. All continues well here, I am thankful to say.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 29.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 16th, to Saturday, the 22nd July 1848.

16th July 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports of the force.

The news from Cabul up to the 10th instant is that fresh messengers had arrived from the Candahar Sirdars calling for aid to prevent Lash being taken by Yar Mahomed Khan.

The Ameer had suspended the march of his troops towards Jellalabad, and had given the most of them 40 days' leave of absence, the arrival of Mahomed Oosman Khan, Nizamoodowla, and *the* Sahib at Peshawur not having been followed by that of any other Sahibs!

The man Heyland has applied to me to be allowed to proceed to Cabul and Bokhara, saying he finds he can get no livelihood here, and that whatever the risk may be, he desires to see those cities. I tried to argue with him, but in vain. He questions our right to prevent his going when and where he likes. I fancy he has become a Mahomedan, and hence thinks he may travel westward with impunity. I told him he must wait till I heard from Lahore.

17th July 1848.—With Lieutenants Nicholson, Herbert and Bowie, I inspected the whole of the force, Regular, Irregular and Ghorechurras, drawn up in Review order on the grand parade: all looked contented and well.

After the parade the Governor with all the Colonels and Commandants paid their respects.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy, and directed Bheem Sein, Duftry, to proceed with the revenue accounts of 1904 for audit to Lahore. The Duftry said it was customary to give the auditors a percentage for examining and passing the accounts, and if he did not give it they would delay their audit. I replied that I would give them a certificate to the effect that I had refused to advance the customary fee.

The treasure party arrived with 1,50,000 rupees for the pay of the troops for the months of——

Received a letter from Lieutenant Taylor enclosing copy of one from Lieutenant Edwardes of the 5th, containing an account of his second victory over the Mooltan rebels.

18th July.—Colonel Ramsahaie's Regiment (Nujeebs) paraded for exercise. Lieutenant Herbert reports that the Commanding Officers of this and the other Nujeeb Battalion have never been in the habit of manœuvring their corps, leaving this essential part of their duty to their seconds-in-command. I have given them six months to learn under penalty of being superseded.

The Governor with some of the Commanding Officers called this morning, and it being the festival of the *Shub-i-burat*, I invited them to attend in the evening to witness some fireworks.

I sent the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan's disclaimer, together with the letter to Mufty Hyder, by my Moonshie to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan to show him the singular coincidence (!) of the letters being in the same handwriting. The Sirdar and his son Kwaja Mahomed at once admitted the fact and the former said he would write his brother to that effect.

Lieutenant Nicholson rode to the Fort of Jumrood to inspect the repairs required and represented to be extensive; he found the

garrison on the alert and that the bastion in which the guns are posted has been much damaged from salute-firing and a gateway been shaken by earthquakes.

19th July 1848.—With Lieutenants Nicholson and Herbert I paid the Governor a visit at the Gor Khuttry and sat with him an hour.

Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports of the force.

An affray last evening took place between a clan of sweepers who are located between the cantonments, in which several were wounded. I fined the parties and have directed them to move their habitations, either into the city or beyond it, as their proximity to the lines is not desirable on many accounts. They are more or less thieves, harbour thieves, and their women from their profligacy create disturbances among the soldiery.

20th July.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which the Governor and Deputy attended with several of the officers.

The Governor, Sirdar Kahn Singh, and Colonel Ruttun Singh produced letters they had received by the hand of a Bhaie Gungah Singh from the *Punches* of Umritsur calling on them for contributions towards the great Temple. The Governor and others said the call being an unusual one they had no idea of attending to it, and suggested that the priest should be directed to return from whence he came, as it is more than probable that the collections are not his only object in coming such a distance at this season of the year. I told Golab Sing he might give him two days to remain and then he must start. It was not a little amusing to see how the officers reprobated the notion of their giving any money.

Another purwannah on the *Paitee* has arrived from the Durbar in part-payment of the troops. It is for 20,000 rupees ; the Durbar could not have heard of their being no assets in hand.

I find that the Shere Dragoons have not yet had their complement of commissioned and non-commissioned officers reduced in this corps ; they have only six Resallahs, or three squadrons, while the Khas Regiment have four ; their excess in Officers, etc., is 6 Resaldars, 12 Jemadars, 3 Nishanchees, 24 Havildars and 24 Naicks.

On hearing of the fall of Mooltan I would propose making the reduction.

21st July 1848.—Meer Jung Ali's Regiment paraded for exercise.

Lieutenant Nicholson visited the Fort of Barrah, which he reports to require extensive repairs.

The Governor and Deputy with several Colonels waited on me; transacted business with the two former.

Received a communication from Colonel John Holmes of the 15th instant, reporting the departure from Bunnoo on the 14th instant of Lieutenant Taylor for Dera Ghazee Khan and his being left in command of the troops.

22nd July.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours; the old gentleman appears to think he cannot come too often; he reports that the Agent from Umritsur departs to-morrow.

I regret to say that Lieutenant Nicholson is suffering from an attack of fever and that Lieutenant Bowie is still on the sick list. This officer, I fear, will have to leave when the season admits on medical certificate to Europe. The weather is exceedingly oppressive and much fever prevails.

The river Barrah has fallen considerably, and apprehensions are entertained of a drought. The Governor proposed gravely the sacrificing of a goat to propitiate the river god, to which I assented.

I have no recent intelligence from the west; here all continues most tranquil, the troops orderly and obedient.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 30.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 23rd, to Saturday, the 29th July 1848.

23rd July 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh called with the reports of the force.

Half the garrison of the forts of Doaba and Hushtnuggur arrived for their pay.

24th July 1848.—The troops were inspected on their respective parades. After the parade the Governor, with all the Commanding Officers, Commandants and Adjutants, paid their respects.

Transacted business with the Governor and Deputy; the former reported the departure of the Grunthee, Gungah Singh, for Umritsur.

Paid the half of the garrison of the forts of Doaba and Hushtnuggur, and directed them to return to their posts.

25th July.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours.

Sirdar Kahn Singh called with some Ghorechurras returned from leave.

In conjunction with the Governor made some promotions in the Ramgole Regiments.

New tents for three Regiments, made up by Misser Roop Lall, Kardar of Rhotas, arrived yesterday, and were inspected by me in the evening; they are by no means good; those for Soobhan Kahn's Corps, agreeably to Lieutenant Edwardes' request, I have had sent by the river from Attock.

Of the 1,50,000 rupees received from Lahore for the pay of the troops, 80,000 rupees is reported to be old and short-weight, on which the shroffs take two and three pice per rupee, which is no inconsiderable loss to the soldiery.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 18th instant announces the distribution of the widows of the late Mahomed Akber among his brothers, thus, the daughter of Ameenoolla Khan, Loghur, was taken by Sirdar Mahomed Ameen Khan and Goolrook by Mahomed Shereef Khan, on hearing which Golam Hyder became angry, and refused to give up their dowers, saying it was the right of the children; this nearly caused a fight between the brothers, but was settled by the Ameer.

Near Jellalabad 4,000 shells had been discovered buried; they were taken to Cabul on 200 bullocks.

On the 13th instant a Vakeel from the Meer Walli of Khoolum had arrived at Cabul with a present of nine horses, and letters, as also Meer Killich Alie Beg, ruler of Syghan, with six horses.

News from Mooltan of eight days' date, announcing the victory of Lieutenant Edwardes, had been received. Buktiar Khan, Motamid of Sirdar Kohen Dill Khan, arrived on the 14th instant from Candahar with letters and offers of marriage.

An ambassador from Dost Mahomed to the ruler of Kokand, returning to Cabul with one from that Chief, was attacked by the Aluman; the latter was killed and the former made prisoner, and ransomed at 1,000 rupees by a merchant of Herat.

The Ameer of Cabul is engaged in taking the muster of his troops.

Colonel Mehtab Sing's Regiment paraded for exercise.

26th July 1848.—The Governor and Deputy were with me for some time with several officers.

Nizamoodowla Mahomed Oosman Khan brought me yesterday a letter from Mahomed Shah Khan, Ghilzie, tendering service and asked my advice as to what answer he was to give. I replied write nothing, and tell the messenger to inform his master that he was prohibited from having any communication with him.

This morning the Nizamoodowla called with Shahzadah Mahomed Saleh, who produced a paper agreeing to make up his brother Gower Mullik's allowance to 1,000 rupees per annum, provided the Durbar, to whom he has gone, gave him no increase; the disputes of these Shahzadahs give me endless work.

Commenced the issue of pay to the Regular Troops for the months of *Baisak* and *Jaith*, corresponding with 11th April to 11th June.

Paid Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment.

Consequent on the great heat I have commenced having kutcherry at daybreak, and strike off at 10 and resume at 2 P.M.

Colonel Ramsahaie Singh's Regiment paraded for exercise.

27th July.—Lieutenant Herbert superintended the issue of pay to Ramsahaie's Regiment and half the garrison of Jehangheera.

The Governor and Deputy, with Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, and several Colonels, waited upon me this morning.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry at sunrise.

I am happy to say that Lieutenants Nicholson and Bowie are convalescing. The heat continues excessive.

Khader Khan of Akokhail, Eusufzye, reports the seizure of a Fakeer named Wazeer Singh, who had been traversing the country, telling the people that he was deputed by Moolraj to advise them that all the Sikhs had resolved on expelling the English; that they should pay no revenue now and should be exempted from paying for seven years. He gave the Khan a note-of-hand for 25,000 rupees to induce him to join Moolraj's standard. I have sent a confidential person to bring the Fakeer in to me, and conceive that I shall be justified in hanging him if what is asserted is proved against him.

28th July 1848.—The Regiment of Meer Jung Ali received pay this morning in Lieutenant Herbert's presence.

My kutcherry was well attended from sunrise and the people seem grateful for the change of hour.

Colonel Alla Singh attended with his report of daily work transacted and Colonel Ruttun Singh with the reports of the force.

The Governor proceeded at 2 A.M. to the Fort of Barrah to sacrifice goats and sheep to propitiate the river god.

A purwannah has arrived from the Durbar for 18,800 rupees on the Treasury of Attock for the pay of the Ghorechurras in lieu of the one previously sent on this Treasury.

29th July.—Mehtab Singh's Regiment received pay this morning in presence of Lieutenant Herbert.

The Governor and Deputy were with me for some time; the former reports his visit to Barrah brought rain and a rush of water into the river. The old gentleman asked me twice during his visit if I had received any news from Lahore, and seeming anxious when I replied negatively, I asked what he had heard; with some hesitation he said, it was reported, that stores proceeding from Lahore towards Mooltan by the river route had fallen into Moolraj's hands. Most likely it is false, I said, but whether so or not, 'tis a matter of little moment.

Received a letter from the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan in the matter of the intercepted letters of his son Sirdar Golam Hyder Khan, requesting the original objectionable letter should be sent to him and that

as Mufty Hyder was guiltless of crime, his house and property should be restored, to which I replied, that I herewith sent the letter that he might judge of its authenticity, that the Mufty's flying the country was conclusive as to his guilt, and that he had previously removed all his property ; his house being sold by auction could not be restored.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 23rd instant from my news-writer is, that Sirdar Akrum Khan with troops started on the 22nd *viâ* Bamian for Balkh ; messengers were daily arriving from Kundooz, Khoolum and Mazar-i-Shereef, to hasten the march of the forces.

The Ameer's sons were making themselves notorious from their intrigues and profligacy. All quiet here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 31.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 30th July, to Saturday, the 5th August 1848.

30th July 1848.—I was taken ill of fever last night, and deputed Lieutenant Nicholson to receive the reports of the troops from Colonel Ruttun Singh.

The Governor visited the village of Akerpora to inspect the *bunds* and arrange for water being conveyed from the Barrah river.

31st July.—The troops were inspected by their Colonels on their respective parades.

As I was prevented by indisposition from holding kutcherry, Lieutenant Nicholson carried on the work, and received the reports of the force from the Governor and Colonels.

At noon, being better, I heard petitions and investigated cases.

My *Cossid Bashee* brought in the Fakeer, Wazeer Singh, from Eusufzye ; he acknowledges to have offered Khader Khan of Akokhail a jagheer of 25,000 rupees, and to have told the Eusufzyes not to pay their revenue ; but denies being the agent of Moolraj, whom he says he never saw ; that what he did do and say was what his Gooroo prompted.

I have made him over to the Governor to see if he can get anything more out of him.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan paid me a visit with his son, Noor Mahomed Khan, and brought a letter from the Ameer Dost Mahomed Khan to him on the subject of Golam Hyder's intercepted letter.

Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment was paid this morning in presence of Lieutenant Herbert.

1st August 1848.—Lieutenant Herbert superintended the issue of pay to Colonel Meer Khan's Regiment and the remaining half of the Ramgole garrisons.

A bullock having been stolen and taken to Adyzye, I sent a purwannah to two Mulliks to produce the animal, and attend at my court. This morning I received an answer that I might do my worst; they would neither send the bullock nor attend to my summons. These Mulliks are a portion of those engaged in the recent affray which I considered murder, but the Resident looked upon as a mere riot; if after the severe example I so lately made of them they are thus contumacious, what may I not expect they will be when they hear that the parties considered by me worthy of death get off with ten years' imprisonment? My position is already difficult enough; this will add doubly to it, for how to deal with such people I know not; no common rules restrain them, and once I allow my authority to be set at defiance, I shall lose all control over them. To get in those Mulliks I must send out two or three regiments, and the season is not favourable for troops to make a double march.

The Governor and Deputy were with me for some hours, and many of the officers asked after my health, expressing much interest in it.

I transacted my kutcherry business as usual in the morning.

This being the first day of *Ramzan*, I wrote to the Governor to have a morning gun fired at an hour before daybreak, to warn the Faithful of the approach of day during the month. I had a cool request from the Cazee to proclaim through the city that any man found breaking the fast should be punished by fine and imprisonment, which of course I negatived.

Consequent on a threatening letter I sent to the Mulliks of Loond-khore reminding them of the consequences that would follow their not paying their revenue, a deputation of them waited on me with a small portion of it, and an assurance that the whole would be duly paid up; though I doubt it, I expressed my willingness to wait two months ere I sent troops to make the collections.

2nd August 1848.—In my verandah this morning from daybreak might be seen on the south face Lieutenant Nicholson with Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, paying the Ghorechurras; on the west, Lieutenant Bowie with General Elahee Bukhsh paying three troops of Artillery; on the north the old Governor and myself receiving the reports of the force and City, and investigating petitions, while Lieutenant Herbert is engaged in superintending the drill of the new Pathan Regiment, one hundred or two yards on our left flank; the whole a lively and interesting scene, and one that must strike both the Mahomedans and Sikhs as passing strange.

The Fakeer, Wazeer Singh, has confessed to the Governor his being an emissary of Dewan Moolraj, by whom he was deputed with a *hurkara* and letters to the Ameer of Cabul; that they proceeded *vid* Bunnoo and delivered their credentials; that the Ameer declined having anything to say to the Dewan, and that on his return from Cabul he visited Eusufzye with a view to stir them up to insurrection.

Having received from the Resident the revised establishments of Regiments with rates of pay, I gave the scale to the Governor to make known to Commandants. Hearing that men who at present receive higher rates had expressed alarm that they were to be reduced, I told the Governor to make known that such was not the intention, that all such would retain their present pay, but that new promotions, and those who received less than the new scale, would be brought up to it. This, I am told, has given great satisfaction.

Received and distributed five proclamations from the Resident calling on all Sikh subjects who had joined Moolraj to withdraw from him previous to the arrival at Mooltan of the British troops, under the penalty of being treated as rebels to the State

In the evening I took the muster of prisoners at work on the roads in and about the cantonment, and released several whose time had nearly expired.

3rd August 1848.—Lieutenant Nicholson superintended the issue of pay to two *Missuls* of Ghorechurras, while Lieutenant Bowie did the same by the three remaining troops of Artillery.

I visited at daybreak the City Jail, and released some more prisoners confined for petty offences.

On my return held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which the Governor and Deputy, with all the Colonels and Commandants attended.

4th August.—Lieutenant Nicholson completed the issue of pay to the Ghorechurras, who are now paid up to the 1st of *Chait.*

Lieutenant Herbert superintended the issue of pay to the Shere Regiment of Dragoons.

The Governor and Deputy with several officers attended; I transacted revenue and judicial matters with the former, and afterwards held kutcherry in the open verandah.

We have not had any accounts of or from Lieutenant Taylor since he left Bunnoo; from Captain Abbott we continue daily to hear.

5th August.—Lieutenant Herbert superintended the issue of pay to the Khas Dragoons, which completes the payment of the troops up to the 1st of *Sawun.*

The Governor with several Colonels waited on me with the reports of the troops. I fully believe that nothing is now done in the force that is not duly reported, and nothing could be more satisfactory than the way all duties are carried on.

I have just received a news-letter from Cabul of the 31st ultimo, but it contains nothing of importance beyond the marriage of the Armenian's daughter with Sirdar Mahomed Azeem: previous to giving consent the Ameer satisfied himself that the girl was willing.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 32.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 6th, to Saturday, the 12th August 1848.

6th August 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the force.

The Governor visited the *bund* at Akerpora. His son, the Deputy Governor, is laid up with fever.

7th August 1848.—Lieutenants Herbert and Bowie inspected the troops in the Alli Murdan Cantonment and Lieutenant Nicholson those in Rajah Soochet Singh's.

After the parade the Governor with all the officers paid their respects. I spoke to the old gentleman consequent on the receipt of a letter from the Resident sanctioning the immediate execution of Moolraj's emissary on his guilt being established ; and we agreed to carry out the extreme penalty of the law to-morrow. It will doubtless have a good effect.

Hearing from Hazara that General Sultan Mahmood of Artillery has opened a treasonable correspondence with General Elahee Bukhsh, I told the General to bring the letter he had received the day previous ; he did so, and it proved to be merely complimentary. The Governor brought me one that he had also received of a like description.

Received a letter from Colonel John Holmes at Bunnoo, reporting the imprisonment by Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, of 14 sowars of the Akal Dragoons for mutiny. The Colonel, Chait Singh, I know to be quite incompetent to command a corps ; he is always under the effects of opium ; the Commandant, Doola Singh, is smart and intelligent, and has much more influence with the men, though a great intriguer.

We had a severe shock of earthquake at midnight from west to east ; it lasted some seconds, but did no mischief in the city.

8th August.—The sentence of death was carried out this morning on Wazeer Singh, the Fakeer emissary of Moolraj ; the ground was kept by a company, Mahomedans of Meer Jung Ali's Regiment, and a strong body of police, but beyond the assembly of a great crowd no sympathy was displayed for the culprit, whose body, after hanging till evening, I had burnt by the police.

While the Governor and Deputy, with many of the Commanding officers, were with me, a letter was received by Lieutenant Nicholson and one by Colonel Ruttun Singh, Man, from Colonel Boodh Singh at Hussan Abdall, reporting that his regiment had been ordered by Sirdar Chuttur Singh to Hurkishenghur in consequence of a movement

among the Mahomedans, and that Canara, the Commandant of Artillery, refusing to join the other troops, had been murdered by a company of Richpaul Singh's Regiment. Colonel Boodh Singh wrote to know what he was to do. I sent off an express directing him to obey no orders but Captain Abbott's, writing at the same time to that officer.

The post brought us a letter of the 5th from this officer, who says nothing of the Mahomedans assembling. It may therefore be considered a pretext of Sirdar Chuttur Singh's to get all the troops he could together, in furtherance of his own evil designs, which for a long time have been most suspicious.

Under the circumstances and with reference to the importance of the Fort of Attock, Lieutenant Nicholson and I consider that, as his services here could be spared, they would be more usefully employed in that quarter. He will therefore, though his health is by no means restored, start this evening for Attock with an escort of 70 Jagheerdar Horse and 150 of my new Pathan Regiment.

The Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, remained with me all day, and is very sanguine as to keeping his troops staunch, though his son, Colonel Alla Singh, says if all the rest of the army rise against the present order of things, it will be too much to expect them to stand aloof.

9th August 1848.—The old Governor was at my quarters at gun-fire, from whence he repaired to his old habitation which adjoins; having there received the reports of the troops he returned to me with most of the Colonels, and sat several hours while I carried on my kutcherry work.

There is evidently a general opinion abroad that the Sikh troops meditate a general rise. Last night an old confidential servant of the late Sir Alexander Burnes strongly advised my moving into the Fort or Gor Khuttry with my family, advising me to take warning from what I saw of the Cabul insurrection and to secure myself in time; he declared there was no faith to be placed in the Sikh troops.

I am happy in having at length heard from Lieutenant Taylor, though not of a more recent date than the 31st ultimo. All was well with

him; he mentions the mutiny of the Akal Dragoons at Bunnoo, and seems to think the officers blameless. The accounts from Hazara are that the Bunnoo troops are rife for revolt.

10th August 1848.—The Governor was with me at an early hour and most of the Commanding Officers.

The post brought a letter from Lieutenant Nicholson reporting his arrival with a few horsemen at 1 P.M., and that he found all quiet in the fort of Attock, but that he was hardly satisfied with the Governor, Goormukh Singh, who admitted that, though he knew of the proceedings in Hazara and of the march of the Hussan Abdall troops, he had not reported it to me, and wished to keep the company of Boodh Singh's on duty in the fort, notwithstanding that the rest of the regiment had proved their insubordination by marching against the wishes of their officers.

I have directed Lieutenant Nicholson to send the Governor to me and ordered Colonel Dhun Raj, who is in Khuttuck, to proceed to Attock, and place himself under Lieutenant Nicholson's orders, and on his requisition hope to send him 150 or 200 more Pathans to-night. I can't help thinking that if Goormukh Singh had not been true, he would have opposed Nicholson's entry into the fort, which he might easily have done: still it is well to be on the safe side.

A coolie sent hence with medicine to Captain Abbott has just returned, stating that he was prevented by the Sikhs from proceeding beyond Puklee; that they were all in open mutiny, had killed a Sahib (Canara), and had had an engagement with the people, of whom they had killed 300, and that the troops from Hussan Abdall and Pindee had joined them.

No letter from Captain Abbott, which, as he has been most regular in writing daily, shows that the dak is stopped.

Held my usual weekly Durbar of Urbobs, but said nothing about the reports from Hazara, though I could see by their countenances they had heard them.

11th August.—The Governor and Deputy were with me before sunrise.

Lieutenant Bowie and I drove to the Fort of Shahmeer Ghur to get out some arms for my new regiment and to relieve two Sikh

companies there on duty by two Poorbea, for though well inclined to place every proper confidence in the former, at the present crisis I think it better to run no risks, and in this, as in everything else, the Governor quite concurs.

I thought of leaving Lieutenant Bowie in charge of the fort, but his health is so delicate, and it is so fearfully hot, that I contented myself by placing the Adjutant of Ameer Khan's Regiment, Mossim Khan, a Hindoostanee, in temporary charge.

On my return the Governor and all the Commanding Officers and Adjutants attended, and I had the pleasure of communicating to the two Nujeeb Regiments that the Durbar, at the suggestion of the Resident, had directed the discontinuance of the deductions heretofore made from the men's pay for clothing which they never received: the announcement was well received, and has reached most opportunely.

I omitted to mention that the Governor brought all the officers to me last evening, when we had much converse as to the state of the troops in Hazara. They assured me, as they have often previously done, that I might rely with perfect confidence on their men, that they had been too well treated since my arrival in January 1847, and were too well aware of the advantages they derived from their connection with us to run the risk of forfeiting all, and indeed losing their Raj by following the example of the Hazara force, who were evidently led astray by Sirdar Chuttur Singh, and the European control over them not having been so uniformly strict as it has been here. I replied that the game was in their own hands: if this force held to its duty the odds were the Khalsa Raj would be preserved; if not, it would be all up with them.

I have sent 170 more Pathan foot to Lieutenant Nicholson, and have directed the Eusufzye Khans to furnish him with 100 matchlocks and 60 Horse, sending in a like number to me.

I have also called on the Barukzye Sirdars to hold in readiness 500 Horse and as many foot, and on the Urbobs for 200 Horse and 1,000 foot to be with me at an hour's notice, so as to be prepared for all contingencies.

Colonel Uttur Singh, Man, brought me a letter he had received from his relative, Colonel Boop Singh, "calling on him to march with

his regiment to his assistance, as he was hemmed in by the Moolkias, (Mahomedan population)": he plainly says that the movement of the Hazara troops is the work of Sirdar Chuttur Singh.

I thanked Uttur Singh in presence of all the officers, and ordered the bearer of the letter, a sepoy, to be confined.

By my desire, though suggested by himself, Colonel Ruttun Singh then wrote to his nephew, Sunt Singh, Commandant of Richpaul Singh's Regiment, to withdraw at once with as many men as he could and join Captain Abbott or Lieutenant Nicholson as he best could.

Heard from Lieutenant Nicholson that he was satisfied with Goormukh Singh, Thanadar of Attock, and should leave him in that post, he having behaved right well in assisting him in the ejection of Boodh Singh's company from the fort. It was most fortunate Lieutenant Nicholson was so prompt and energetic in his movements; had he not been so, the fort would have been lost to us; his conduct is beyond praise.

I have not a line from Captain Abbott, though I have written him twice by special messengers; he is safe I am sure; still his not writing is strange.

The Governor on the plea of indisposition and wishing to be near my Doctor, has taken up his abode next door to me. He is heart and soul ours, and displays great tact and judgment. I am most fortunate in having such a man at such a crisis.

12th August 1848.—The Governor and Deputy with all the Commanding Officers were with me, both in the morning and evening. I hold my kutcherry as usual, and carry on the duties of the Force quite regularly.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan and Nizamoodowla Mahomed Oosman Khan were with me for some time to-day, tendering service.

All the Urbobs have come forward to a man, and are most anxious to prove their zeal and devotion by remaining constantly with me; but this I have declined. as it might alarm the troops, and give a handle to the designing and ill-disposed to point out that I did not trust them, which I am most anxious to avoid.

Lieutenant Nicholson reports having made all the arrangements for the safety of Attock; he has started for Hussan Abdall.

I receive continued assurances from the Governor and Deputy that up to this date the feelings of the troops are entirely with us, and that nothing will induce them to forfeit my good opinion. I have consequently every reason to trust that this portion of the Khalsa troops will prove loyal and true.

A letter received from Colonel Boodh Singh, Man, informs me that he was forced by his regiment to march from Hussan Abdall, but had taken the first opportunity to leave them, returning with 50 officers and non-commissioned.

A Mullik hitherto considered by the Sikhs as a most troublesome character has of his own accord just marched into my compound with 300 followers.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 33.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 13th, to Saturday, the 19th August 1848.

13th August 1848.—The Governor and Deputy, with Colonel Ruttun Singh and other officers, were with me, both in the morning and evening.

The special messenger I sent on the 8th to Captain Abbott on hearing of the murder of Canara has returned, bringing a letter from that officer, dated the 12th, from Nara, in Gundghur, a copy of which I sent by to-day's post to the Resident.

The messenger was stopped in Hazara by the Sikh troops, but let pass on saying that he was going to join Sirdar Chuttur Singh.

At the suggestion of the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, and his son, Colonel Alla Singh, I have sent a letter to Chuttur Singh, and one to Colonel Boodh Singh through Captain Nicholson, telling the former that though free use was made of his name as being the instigator of the Hazara *émeute*, I was most reluctant to credit it, and that I begged he would give me a statement of facts immediately, etc. To the latter I wrote applauding his having separated himself from his mutinous corps, and recommended his calling on all the well dis-

posed of the force to join him, when those who were innocent would be treated with consideration, but that no terms could be held with the murderers of Canara. Copies of these letters have been sent to the Resident and Captain Abbott.

14th August 1848.—The troops held their weekly grand parade on the Alli Murdan ground and Rajah Suchet Singh's. The Governor, with Lieutenant Bowie and myself, inspected the regiments on the former, while Lieutenant Herbert and the Deputy did the same by the latter. If we can judge of what is passing in the men's minds by their countenances, I would say that they have no intention of swerving from their loyalty.

As usual, after the parade the Governor brought all the Colonels, Commandants and Adjutants to pay their respects, and make their daily report.

The Governor tells me that the recent influx of so many of the people of the country (Moolkias) into my compound, with the continued presence of the Urbobs, has caused some sensation among the troops, who say, it would seem that the Sahib is losing confidence in us ; but that he quickly satisfied them by pointing to the fact of my remaining at the Agency, and not going into the Fort, or Gor Khuttry, and that I was merely completing the ranks of the new Pathan Regiment, officered from among themselves, and enlisting 4 or 500 men to send to Lieutenant Nicholson, who required troops to replace those who had left Hussan Abdall for Hazara. I have been fortunately most particular throughout the present crisis in avoiding doing anything that could be construed into a want of confidence in the troops, and this every reflecting man amongst them must have seen. I certainly get intelligence of what goes on among them, but encourage no idle tales, or rumors, as I hold they would do me an infinity of mischief in making me suspicious and distrustful of all around me.

I have heard twice from Lieutenant Nicholson to-day, of the 12th and 13th instant, from Hussan Abdall. He tells me of several agents having left Hurripoor for this, with the view of getting my Corps to join the Hazara Force, and that, from what he learns, Sirdar Chuttur Singh is now acting more from alarm at the consequences which may accrue to him from his share in the murder of Canara than from anything else.

He likewise tells me that the Sikh Regiment from Karore, with two guns, was within two *koss* of Janee-ke-Sung on the 13th, and that he purposed endeavouring to stop them at the Margulla Pass. My reinforcements had not joined him.

In the evening the Lahore dak arrived, express, about six or eight hours earlier than usual, bringing me a letter from Mr. Cocks, announcing his deputation to Hazara to enquire into the state of affairs.

The *Akhbar* has an account of what had occurred, which seems to me more correct than such accounts usually are. It says that in consequence of the Puklee Brigade giving out that they intended marching towards Mooltan, Captain Abbott had called on the people of the country to oppose the movement; this alarming the Sikhs they applied to Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who collected all the troops he could to aid them; that Canara refused to march his Battery till he got Captain Abbott's order, on which the Sirdar sent a portion of Richpaul Singh's Corps to seize the guns; Canara resisting was slain, and 1,000 rupees reward was given by Chuttur Singh to the murderer. This I gather to be the Sirdar's own tale and on it I would condemn him, for surely it was his bounden duty, on receiving the representation of the Puklee Brigade, to have either gone to Captain Abbott, or to have communicated with him as to the truth or otherwise of his raising the Mahomedans; and why murder one wretched European? Surely he might have had him seized and confined. Besides, what authority had he to send for the troops from Hussan Abdall, Rawal Pindee, and even Peshawur?

15th August 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie I drove to Rajah Suchet Singh's cantonment. On passing close to the lines of Uttur Singh's Regiment, a Subadar and seven or eight sepoys were seated on their *cots*, from which they neither rose nor saluted me. I ordered all forthwith into confinement. It would not do at any time to pass over so gross a mark of want of discipline, much less at the present period, when all my acts are watched and weighed.

The Governor and all the Commandants of Corps, including Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, paid their respects. The latter reports that his Ghorechurras are all right, the few doubtful characters among them he keeps his eyes on.

I told the Governor that I had heard of the departure of several emissaries from Hurripoor for this, and that it behoved him to lay

hold on them ere they could do any mischief, prevention being better than cure.

I have four of the Guide Corps; two of these I have sent with Lieutenant Nicholson, the other two are most useful to me in obtaining information from the lines. As they are instructing the Cavalry in Equitation and Drill, they can obtain it without being suspected; a few more of this valuable Corps would be most desirable, but I presume they are well employed at Mooltan with their Commandant, Lieutenant Lumsden.

Intelligence from Cabul to the 8th instant is that Sirdar Shere Alie Khan, a younger son of the Ameer, had marched with two guns and one regiment on the 5th towards Guznee, to collect revenue.

Two more sons of the Ameer are desirous of marrying into the Armenian family of Timour Khan.

The quarrels of last year among the Jawansheres, which led to much bloodshed, have recommenced, and several men have been killed and wounded in open day. The Ameer would seem to be little disposed to restrain them. He is said to have doubled the taxes on all merchandise imported from, and exported to, the Punjab—a short-sighted policy which must eventually materially injure his own revenue.

16th August 1848.—The Governor and Deputy, with all the Officers, attended my kutcherry this morning; the former brought all the Subedars including the culprit of yesterday and the seven sepoys of Uttur Singh's Regiment, when, after reading them an impressive lecture, he announced that, in consequence of the general good conduct of the Force, I had been pleased to pardon them.

Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan came in from Hushtnuggur and paid me a visit yesterday, tendering all manner of service; his brother Peer Mahomed Khan, being sick, sent his son with like tenders.

All the Eusufzye Khans have promptly responded to the call for troops, sending some to join Lieutenant Nicholson and others to me, agreeably to the scale I laid down.

Lieutenant Herbert superintended, yesterday morning, the exercise parade of Mehtab Singh's Regiment, and reports most favourably of their movements. I deem it politic to carry on the military duties in

every way, as if nothing was going on in Hazara, and I can see that my so doing has a good effect.

A Motber, or confidential servant, of Sirdar Chuttur Singh's was brought to me this evening with letters to myself, the Governor, and Sirdar Kahn Sing, reporting the rise of the people in Hazara and of the troops, requiring assistance, and requesting three regiments of Infantry and some Cavalry to be sent forthwith. Conceiving that this was not the only object of his visit, I whispered the Governor on my leaving the room to tender to him the hand of fellowship, and to ascertain if there was no message for his private ear.

The old man seemed delighted at the hint, and the following is what he elicited :—

"At Hazara the rumor was current that the Peshawur Force had risen upon and imprisoned the British Officers. The Motber was thereon deputed to induce them to join their brethren and the Sirdar ; the letters were given him as a blind in case of accidents.

"On the murder of Commandant Canara, the Sirdar sent messengers, express, to his sons, Rajah Shere Singh and Sirdar Golab Singh, announcing the event, recommending the former to take steps for his own safety, and the latter to leave Lahore as quickly as he could.

"Letters were likewise sent to Rajah Golab Singh calling for his aid, and to Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, at Bunnoo, but the messengers were precluded proceeding by the arrival of Lieutenant Nicholson at Attock and the men of Chuch and Ghebe thereupon returning to their duty.

"Lieutenant Nicholson's presence had paralysed the Sirdar, closing the road as it did of Sind Sagur both to his receiving supplies of money, provisions and men ; he was therefore desirous of coming to terms if he could, but feared that he had too far committed himself to expect to be pardoned."

I thanked the Governor for his information, and requested him to favour the Motber with a small escort to see him well across the Indus ; he was in a state of great alarm, and was glad to be so easily off. I gave him a receipt for the letter he brought, but answered it by post through Captain Nicholson.

At 10 P.M. received an express from Lieutenant Nicholson, dated 9 P.M., the 15th instant, reporting his departure for the Margulla Pass to try and stop the advance of Colonel Pertab Singh's Regiment, which is said to be in full march from Karore to Hazara.

17th August 1848—Lieutenant Bowie visited the Fort to examine the guns and serve out arms for my new regiment.

Lieutenant Herbert was to have seen Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment at exercises, but was precluded from indisposition.

The Governor too, I regret to say, is ailing; still he will insist on being with me every morning with all the Officers. I, however, only allow him to sit a short time while the Army reports are being made. It would not do to have him laid up just now.

By this morning's post I received letters from Mr. Cocks announcing the postponement of his departure; from Lieutenant Nicholson giving the gratifying intelligence of his having forced, it may be said at the point of the bayonet, Colonel Pertab Singh's Regiment to return from Janee-ke-Sung to their post at Karore; from Captain Abbott giving a detail of matters in Hazara, and from Sirdar Chuttur Singh in reply to my despatch of the ——instant. He, of course, lays all the blame of the *émeute* on Captain Abbott; copy of his letter, and my reply, will go shortly to the Resident.

I have directed that all arrivals in the lines of sepoys, relatives or others, shall be every morning paraded for my inspection, so that I may ascertain emissaries, etc., from the disaffected.

Received a letter from Colonel Baboo Pandah and Colonel Nooroodeen reporting their intention to return to Hussan Abdall alone, their men refusing to accompany them.

18th August.—With Lieutenant Bowie I visited General Elahee Bukhsh's parade to inspect the gun-carriages of Futteh Khan's and Secunder Khan's troops. We directed three to be renewed, and the rest to be repaired; we afterwards inspected the horses at their pickets, and found all in good order.

To shew how alive the troops are to every movement of ours, I may mention that General Elahee Bukhsh whispered in my ear that on Futteh Khan's guns being brought down, the men said to each other,

"the Sahib intends them for his own compound." After the inspection I ordered them back to their lines forthwith.

The Governor and Deputy, with Commanding Officers, waited on me with the reports of the Army. The Governor looking ill, I insisted on his withdrawing; transacted business in revenue matters with his son, the Deputy.

Received a long letter in reply to mine from Sirdàr Chuttur Singh, giving an account of proceedings in Hazara and asking me to send a Motber to judge for myself of his conduct. In reply I referred him to Captains Abbott or Nicholson, recommending his repairing to the latter without delay.

Heard from Captain Abbott of 16th and Lieutenant Nicholson of 17th instant, but nothing of consequence.

19th August 1848.—Indisposition prevented the Governor from calling; for some days he has been ailing. I have advised his returning to the Gor Khuttry, where he is more comfortable than here, and he has done so.

Colonel Ruttun Singh brought the reports of the force and all the Commandants of Corps to wait on me.

Lieutenant Bowie rode down the lines, and saw Ruttun Singh's Regiment at exercise.

I have no letters to-day from Captain Abbott or Nicholson, probably owing to the arrival of Sirdar Jhunda Singh at Hussan Abdall, which the news-writer reports. I much regret that Mr. Cocks did not accompany him as first intended, as his presence would have had some effect with Chuttur Singh and the troops as coming fresh from the Capital.

Received by *Cossid* a long letter from Sirdar Chuttur Singh containing 8 or 10 charges against Captain Abbott. I very much doubt his having any intention of going to Lieutenant Nicholson, unless he receives an unconditional promise of pardon for the past, which I confess I do not see how he can expect. In reply, I told him his letter should be forwarded to the Resident, who would of course judge him justly, but that his wisest course would be to direct the immediate return of the Hussan Abdall Troops, and himself proceed and join

Lieutenant Nicholson. I fear that he is aware of being too much committed, to admit of his following this counsel.

I have no recent intelligence from the west beyond what is brought by *Cossids* of the merchants in the city, who represent the Ameer as having received several messengers from Moolraj, but that he had not deigned to send any replies by them.

An *Elchee*, with 200 horsemen, is said to have arrived at Cabul from Yar Mahomed of Herat, in a marriage affair.

All continues with us most tranquil, and I have every reason to hope will continue to do so.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 34.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 20th, to Saturday, the 26th August 1848.

20th August 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the troops; gave orders for a grand parade of all to-morrow, Regular and Irregular.

I am happy to say the Governor is reported better, though still ailing.

Received a report from Afzul Khan of Hotee, whom I had deputed to collect the revenue of Loondkhore, that the Mulliks had paid 600 rupees, but as soon as they heard of the *émeute* in Hazara, and that Sirdar Chuttur Singh was at the bottom of it, they shut up and told him they would pay no more, the Sahib might come and take it himself.

I wrote in reply that if the whole was not paid in quickly, I would not only take it but arrears for four years, so they had better look out.

21st August.—Indisposition prevented my attending the grand parade this morning, as it likewise did the Governor.

Lieutenants Bowie and Herbert attended, and report that all looked well and contented; the line consisted of five troops of Artillery, two Regiments of Dragoons, six Regiments of Infantry, about 500 Ghorechurras and 1,000 Ramgole Infantry.

The Officers with General Elahee Bukhsh and the Deputy Governor, Colonel Alla Singh, paid their respects as usual after the parade.

A *Cossid* from Sirdar Chuttur Singh brought to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed three letters: one for me, one for the Sirdar, and one for Sirdar Kahn Singh, the two last instructing the Sirdars to get me to send five Regiments of Infantry, with guns and Cavalry, to his assistance, as he and the Hazara Force were surrounded by the people of the country raised by Captain Abbott, who found himself now unable to put them down. The letter to my address was much to the same effect. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed sent the bearer and letters to me, and I gave the man a receipt for them saying they required no reply. Copies with translation will be sent to the Resident.

Lieutenant Nicholson reports the arrival of Sirdar Jhunda Singh and of his having proceeded with him to visit Captain Abbott, and has great doubts of their being able to come to an amicable adjustment with Sirdar Chuttur Singh.

Transacted revenue business with the Deputy Governor.

22nd August 1848.—Colonel Ruttun Singh attended with the reports of the Force, and several Colonels to pay their respects.

I deputed Lieutenant Bowie to visit the Governor, whom he reports to be labouring under severe indisposition, and foolishly not attending to Mr. Thompson's prescriptions.

At 2 P.M. I was startled by the receipt of a note from Captain Nicholson mentioning that Sirdar Chuttur Singh, having given out that he intended raising the siege of the Gundea Brigade and thus put Captain Abbott on the wrong scent, had started with the Hurripoor Troops for Hussan Abdall, on hearing which Lieutenant Nicholson with his Moolkias had proceeded to meet and oppose him. He requires me to send him reinforcements.

By 7 P.M. I had started 60 Horse and 165 Foot, Peshawrees and Eusufzyes, and hope by to-morrow to get off 200 more of the latter.

On mentioning this to Colonel Alla Singh in the evening, he at once sent for the Governor, who took up his abode next door, and whom I visited at night.

It is his decided opinion that the sooner a British Brigade starts for Huzara the better and that its march would, instead of operating unfavorably on the troops here, tend to strengthen them in their loyalty besides preventing many who may now be wavering in other quarters from joining the rebel standard.

23rd August 1848.—I am happy to say the Governor already seems better. I have persuaded him to occupy a room in my house during the heat of the day as being more comfortable than his own. I make much of him in every way that the officers and men may see that we are one, and I observe that it has a good effect.

I wrote Sirdar Sultan Mahomed last evening to send Lieutenant Nicholson 50 horse and 100 foot with all practicable expedition. He waited on me with his son, Noor Mahomed, and Yahoor Khan this morning to report that the detachment would be off to-morrow, and to tender any further service I might require.

I enlisted and despatched 100 men (foot) to Lieutenant Nicholson during the day.

On looking over my last week's Diary I find I omitted to note my having laid detachments of Dragoons at intervals of five *koss* hence to Khairabad to protect the daks and expedite the receipt and despatch of letters between Lieutenant Nicholson and self.

I have suggested to that officer the expediency of forming all the leave-of-absence men returning to Huzara, Hussun Abdall and Peshawur, into a temporary battalion under the command of Colonel Boodh Singh, keeping them employed under his own eye: they might be very serviceable.

Received a remonstrative letter from Ursalla Khan of Zedah at not being employed at this "time of danger," to which I replied that he should not be forgotten when danger was near, but that at present I apprehended none.

At midnight on the 22nd seven rounds per battery were fired in honor of the birth of Kunniahjee. The Governor said it was customary to fire seven rounds per gun, which would have given 256 rounds, but this I thought rather too much, and so only 56 were fired.

24th August 1848.—The Governor had himself carried to my Durbar where, seated on my right, we received all the officers' and Urbobs'

congratulations and nuzzurs on the birth of my son. Many and highly complimentary were the speeches made on the occasion; all agreed that had the birth been delayed two hours his destiny would have been a throne from its occurring on the auspicious Janam Ashtmee; as it was he could not fail to attain high distinction.

Heard from Lieutenant Taylor from Dera Ismail Khan of the 15th instant. All well with him, but most anxious for intelligence from Huzara, of which he seems to have heard little Each Assistant at head-quarters takes it for granted that some brother Assistant has given all the news to the outposts, so that between so many stools little or none comes.

Rain is falling on all the hills around us, but as yet this valley has had none, which is very bad for the crops; it has, however, much cooled the atmosphere.

Received a letter from the Thannadar of Attock reporting all right and that he had passed on my reinforcements of horse and foot under the command of Sirdar Abbas Khan to Lieutenant Nicholson.

25th August 1848.—The Governor and Deputy with all the Colonels attended my morning Durbar, and were much amused at the account I gave them of Moolraj's attempt to carry off the British guns.

Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, with all the Ghorechurra officers, waited on me with nuzzurs; among them I only observed one discontented face, and it might be fancy, arising from my having heard that he was rather disaffected!

I took the opportunity to read to the assembly a letter from the Resident to the Governor highly complimentary on the good feeling and condition of the troops, which seemed to give much satisfaction.

With Lieutenant Bowie I drove to Raja Suchet Singh's cantonment in the evening and found all right and quiet. Colonel Uttur Singh Man's Regiment, the Khas Dragoons, are there quartered.

At the request of Colonels Bhaug Singh and Uttur Singh, Man, I sent a letter from them to their relative Colonel Bhoop Singh, to be forwarded by Lieutenant Nicholson, strongly advising him to leave his regiment if he could not get the men to follow him and to join either Captain Abbott or Nicholson. These Colonels are all closely related to Sirdar Kahn Singh, Man.

26th August 1848.—The Governor was carried to my Durbar, when he, his son the Deputy, and all the Colonels and Commandants presented nuzzurs of gold bangles and money to the amount of 1,600 rupees in honor of the birth of my son. I was disposed to decline them, but on the Governor's insisting that etiquette and custom required me to accept, I yielded.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan and Nizamoodowla Mahomed Oosman Khan visited me this morning I had many anxious enquiries for news from Huzara; the feeling universally displayed towards me is most gratifying and highly indicative of the result of my administration.

Intelligence from Cabul extends to the 15th instant, but is of no importance. The Ameer continues to levy most unjust and arbitrary taxes on all merchandise arriving from, and proceeding to, the Punjaub; his policy seems to be to get all he can without reference to the future.

Received at 10 P.M. a letter from Lieutenant Nicholson dated 25th instant, 8 P.M., Camp Poora, reporting the arrival of 80 of my reinforcements under Sirdar Abbas Khan; he considers that 200 foot in addition to those already sent will suffice. He adds that Autar Singh, Chuttur Singh's son, was with him in the morning, but that matters were far from settled, and in the present temper of the troops it is impossible to say what will happen. His terms as contained in his letter of the 20th are still open to Chuttur Singh.

Colonel Pertab Singh's Corps has again advanced to within three miles of Janee-ke-Sung, and Lieutenant Nicholson had ordered his levies there to oppose its further progress; he himself cannot leave his present post.

He concludes by saying the arrival of news of the march of a Brigade from Lahore would, he conceives, enable him to settle the matter easily: as it is, between the "*Burchas*" the job is no easy one.

I have already expressed my opinion that the sooner a Brigade marches the better; even their crossing the river I feel assured would have an instantaneous effect, though they should be prepared to move forward.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 35.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 3rd, to Saturday, the 9th September 1848.

3rd September 1848.—Ordered the Troops, Regular, Ramgole, and Ghorechurras, to parade to-morrow in Review order, as much to test their feeling as anything else.

Directed the relief of the Dragoons on post escort duty between this and Attock.

The Governor and Deputy, with several Colonels, were with me in the morning and evening. At the latter visit, the Durbar's purwannah was read, complimenting the officers and men on their good conduct, and the rewards that would be the result. I requested that the same should be made known to the men.

4th September.—It rained heavily last night, so I countermanded the parade for this morning.

The Governor and Deputy with all the officers were with me this morning. I have confined a Subedar, and six men returned from leave of several Corps, who acknowledged to have passed 12 or 14 days in Chuttur Singh's camp. They have evidently come primed to do mischief.

Received a letter from Mr. Ingram of the 1st from Nara; contents made known to the Resident in my demi-official of this date.

Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan paid me a long visit this morning. His alarm is almost as great as that of his brothers; he evidently thinks me insane for remaining in this position, so near to the cantonment.

I told him to leave one of his sons that he might witness the bearing of the officers and troops, in making their daily reports. This he did, and I think was comforted.

At the suggestion of the Governor and Sirdar Kahn Singh, I have sent for Goormukh Singh, Thannadar, they deeming that it was better he was out of Attock for the present than remain there rankling under the supposed affront of the Nizamoodowla being joined with him in the Thannadarship.

Received a long and interesting letter from Lieutenant Herbert, who I doubt not will get on well in his important charge.

Rode with Lieutenant Bowie and Colonel Alla Singh in the evening through the city, where all looked as usual.

The reports continue of Sirdar Chuttur Singh's intended move on Huzara.

5th September 1848.—Though the events of last night have already been reported to the Resident in my official of this date, still I may here give them a brief record.

At 8 P.M. Colonel Alla Singh came to me in a state of breathless alarm, and said that he had it from good authority that the Residency was to be attacked by two or more Sikh Regiments during the night; that his troop of Artillery were first to be mustered, etc. Close upon him followed the Governor, more cool and collected. General Elahee Buksh of the Artillery, Colonels Meer Jung Ali and Ameer Khan, on whose corps the Governor said we might rely, were sent for, as likewise Colonels Mehtab and Ruttun Singh, who command the two Sikh Regiments in the Alli Murdan cantonment.

The two first named Colonels were directed to get their corps under arms, and to detach a wing from each to take possession of the guns, which are on either flank of the cantonment; this they did quietly and promptly.

The two Sikh Colonels declared that their men could not be in the plot as all were asleep, which proved to be the case: the Artillerymen were likewise found asleep, so that we had the agreeable assurance that the plot was not as yet general.

It was said to have originated in Colonel Uttur Singh's Sikh Regiment, located a mile on the east of the city. Messengers returned from thence, and reported that that corps and the Khas Dragoons were getting under arms, and that an attempt had been made to possess themselves of Futteh Khan's and Tara Singh's guns (8) in that locality. Orders were sent to Colonel Ram Sahaie Singh to send a wing of his regiment (Hindustanies) to protect them, which was done without opposition, and Afghan vedettes were placed from the city to the cantonment to give notice of any move in this direction.

Our precautions evidently alarmed the ill-disposed, for the night wore on, and all remained quiet.

At an early hour the Governor assembled all the officers, and, after giving them much good and sound advice. sent them to ascertain the feelings of their men, by troops and companies. Towards noon they returned and reported that the plot was originated by 40 or 50 men of different corps, incited thereto by emissaries from Sirdar Chuttur Singh, but that they had failed in making any impression on the bulk of the men, and that all expressed themselves willing that those who might be proved guilty should meet their deserts.

I had summoned during the night the Barukzye Sirdars and Urbobs, with their contingents. The former joined me at sunrise and the rest during the day.

Sirdar Kahn Singh declared that the Ghorechurras only heard of the occurrences in the morning. By his advice and that of Sirdar Golab Singh, I delayed bringing Futteh Khan's and Tara Singh's guns from their cantonment for the present, lest a collision might ensue.

I am of opinion that none of the officers were concerned, and that all are most anxious to preserve the peace.

Goormukh Singh, Thannadar of Attock, arrived to-day pursuant to my summons. I gave him a khillut of five *parchas*, and expressed my satisfaction of his conduct, more particularly on the day Lieutenant Nicholson entered the Fort, and told him that his recall was merely a temporary measure; he seemed well pleased.

Received letters from Lieutenants Nicholson and Herbert: all well with them.

6th September 1848.—The Governor, Deputy, and all the officers were with me. Two men of Colonel Mehtab Singh's regiment deserted during the night, and two or three of Uttur Singh's regiment suspected of being engaged in inciting others have been put in irons.

I abstain from making much enquiry lest I should cause general alarm. My getting the guns I can see has had a great effect.

I have about 1,500 Mahomedans at and about my grounds, but keep them as much out of sight as possible, and have directed the Barukzye contingents to return to the Wuzeeree Bagh.

The sepoy, a Sikh, who gave intelligence of the plot, I presented with 50 rupees, and promoted to Naik.

We have had no daks from Lahore for several days ; Chuttur Singh has evidently cut them off.

Parades and drills are going on as usual except with the Artillery, who only give their horses walking exercise. I see the officers for the most part morning and evening, and to the Sikhs give every possible *tusully*, as they seem downcast.

7th September 1848.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, which was unusually crowded, all tendering unlimited service.

The Governor and Deputy with all the officers were with me as usual. I have deemed it necessary for the present to put a stop to all leave of absence and to people crossing the Attock.

Ram Dass, Duftry, said to have been seized by Sirdar Chuttur Singh, has arrived, and I am told that he spread the report merely to blind me, having, of his own accord, waited on the Sirdar and tendered obeisance. I have therefore suspended him and his son, Ajeet Singh, pending enquiry ; it will be remembered that I have long expressed dissatisfaction with these functionaries.

I have sent prisoners to Attock, the Subedars, Havildars, and four sepoys of different regiments returned from leave, who admit they passed 10 or 12 days in Chuttur Singh's camp ; there is little doubt of their being emissaries empowered to work mischief.

I hear daily from Lieutenant Herbert, who is making himself most useful in Attock.

Lieutenant Nicholson reports having had another skirmish in the Margulla Pass, in which he lost six men killed and 18 wounded, and that he himself and Colonel Boodh Singh, Man, are among the latter ; in the former are a Subedar and sepoy of my Levies, who are said to have behaved most gallantly. I have strongly advised him to avoid these collisions as much as possible ; as he is not strong enough to succeed, better not try.

I was warned to-day that it is intended to shoot the Governor and myself as the only means of winning over the troops ; highly complimentary to us !

8th September.—I sent an order this morning to Colonels Ruttun Singh, Kahn Singh, Rosa, and Uttur Singh, Man, to bring Futteh Khan's

and Tara Singh's guns to General Elahee Buksh's cantonment, under escort of Ram Sahaie Singh's Regiment, which I am happy to say was done, without a sign of opposition from the Sikhs. We may now consider ourselves pretty secure, at least for the present.

I have intercepted a letter from Sirdar Chuttur Singh to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed, calling upon him either to join him himself or to send one of his sons with troops; he states that he only waits for his arrival in Chuch to move on to attack Lahore, and that he is promised assistance from Maharaja Golab Singh and the Sikh Force before Mooltan.

I had this letter conveyed secretly to Sultan Mahomed, who received it with avidity, asked many questions of the bearer, and told him to return in a day or two, when he would give a verbal reply, it not being safe to write. This has disturbed me a good deal, for hitherto I had considered that whatever might be his inclinations, his interests bound him to us. He has recently assembled a large force at Kohaut under the plea of repressing some riotous tenants; this I have directed him to disband forthwith.

I find that three troops of Artillery are chiefly composed of Sikhs. I purpose drafting half of them into the Infantry and supplying their place with Mahomedans and Hindustanies. General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Alla Singh are anxious that this should be done.

9th September 1848.—I yesterday morning walked down the front of the Infantry lines and inspected the guns, in their three positions, with the four companies of Infantry round each. Found all right. With Lieutenant Bowie rode through the city in the evening

The Governor and all the officers attended my morning Kutcherry as usual, as did Sirdars Kahn Singh and Peer Mahomed Khan, Barukzye. After the passing of mutual compliments, the latter asked to speak to me alone, when he begged that I would not attend to any reports I might hear against him, but believe that he was our most devoted. I repeatedly urged him to say why he deemed this caution necessary, but could not get him to do so. There is evidently some mischief brewing, or why this anxiety to exonerate himself beforehand.

Intelligence from Cabul up to the 5th instant contains nothing worth recording, except the messenger declares the Ameer fired a salute on

hearing that the British officers had fled from hence to Attock, where they had been killed, and the fort taken by the Sikhs.

The messenger who took Chuttur Singh's letter to Sirdar Sultan Mahomed says that the verbal answer was this: "What you promised, you have not done; what I wanted you to do, you have not done; I told you to come here, where if the troops joined you we could soon settle matters our own way, and even if they did not, through the Sahib I could reconcile you to the Resident; this you have not done; therefore you and the Sahibs must settle matters as you best can; I'll have nothing to say to them."

Apparently all is quiet here.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 36.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 10th, to Saturday the 16th September 1848.

10th September 1848.—The Governor and Deputy with several Colonels were with me for some time to-day. Discussing the probability of Raja Deena Nath being able to arrange matters with Sirdar Chuttur Singh, if an unconditional indemnity for the past *(sic)*, all difficulty will be removed they think, but say, how can that be granted after what has occurred?

We have received for the last two days the Lahore posts *viâ* Pind Dadun Khan, so are in hopes that they will now arrive regularly; from what I can learn all our daks since the 28th have been cut off.

Lieutenant Herbert reports all right at Attock, and that Lieutenant Nicholson had proceeded to Huzara to assist Captain Abbott in opposing Sirdar Chuttur Singh, who was about to endeavour to extricate the garrisons of Hurripore and Gundea.

11th September.—The troops were inspected on their respective parades by Commanding Officers.

The Governor and Deputy with all the Colonels attended with the daily report of the force in the morning, and most of them were again with me in the evening; they seem to think they cannot come too often, and though it interferes with business, I like not to object.

12th September 1848.—Rode down the parade this morning, and saw Colonel Mehtab Singh's Regiment go through six or seven evolutions in the English mode, which they performed very creditably, but not with the spirit they did when last I looked at them: the men held down their heads as if ashamed of themselves.

The Governor and Deputy with the Colonels and Commandants were with me as usual. A rumour has got abroad that the advanced tents of a British Brigade had reached the Jhelum; would to God it was true! I said to the officers that I had not heard of it, but that if not there now, I trusted they shortly would and then they would rejoice in their good conduct and loyalty.

My eyes are troubling me so much that I have been obliged to put myself into Mr. Thompson's hands for treatment, and I regret to say Lieutenant Bowie is again laid up with fever, so that we are rather an invalid pair.

Lieutenant Herbert writes that he considers 200 more men are necessary for the garrison of Attock.

13th September.—The Governor and Deputy with Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, and most of the officers were with me this morning, and several again in the evening.

Accounts arrived from Lieutenant Nicholson of his Levies, and those of Captain Abbott, having been defeated in the strongest pass in Huzara by Sirdar Chuttur Singh's troops. 200 Eusufzyes and Peshaurees are described as to have been the cause, from their flying from the centre of the line ere a shot was fired. Captain Abbott's men are said not to have appeared at all. These are the wretched materials these officers have been relying upon; wonderful that they escaped with their lives. The Gundea Brigade having thus been liberated, have joined the Sirdar, whose force now consists of 14 guns, and six regiments of Infantry, exclusive of Cavalry and people of the country, or Moolkias.

He gives out that he purposes marching on Lahore, but I am quite sure has no such intention; he will either invest Attock or take this direction.

I have sent 240 Pathans as reinforcement to Lieutenant Herbert, under command of Syed Ayaoodeen, our pensioner, and have ordered all the boats, but two, to be sent down the river to Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, to assist in conveying grain to Mooltan, and to get them out of the way of the Sirdar and his rebel troops.

Received an official reply, dated the 8th instant, from the Resident to my application of the 1st and 2nd for British Troops, from which I learn that the Jullunder Brigade is ordered to hold itself in readiness to move at the shortest notice, and that a Light Brigade was preparing at Lahore to join it, on reaching Goojranwalla. The Resident's demi-official says, "We shall be strong in troops here in the course of a few weeks"! Poor comfort to us, who require them now. Where shall we be in a few weeks!

We have received the daks pretty regularly for some days *vid* Pind Dadun Khan.

14th September 1848.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs. They have heard of the bad conduct of their men with Lieutenant Nicholson, but appear to think little of it; they are not meant to cope with Regular Troops they say. I am pretty confident that not a man of them is to be depended upon.

The Governor and Deputy, with the Colonels, attend as usual. The former says he expects nothing from the deputation of Raja Deena Nath, who is said to have arrived at Rawul Pindee for the purpose of negotiating with Sirdar Chuttur Singh and the rebel troops.

I have written officially to Captain Abbott and Lieutenant Nicholson directing them to throw themselves with their establishments into the Fort of Attock, it being impossible they could do anything more in Huzara, and it being most likely that Chuttur Singh would lose no time in investing it.

15th September.—I have carried out my intention of drafting a portion of Sikhs, from three troops of Artillery where they preponderate, into the Infantry, and supplying their places by Mahomedans

and Hindustanies. This morning I paraded 90 of them, and, after explaining that their removal was merely a matter of expediency not caused by any misdemeanor, allotted them to the Sikh Corps. One only applied for his discharge, which I granted at once.

This measure is decidedly unpopular, but it is necessary, and hence I take the risk; these are not times to stand on trifles.

All the regiments paraded for exercise on their respective parades. The state of my eyes prevented my seeing them; I am ordered not to expose them to the sun.

After consulting the Governor, Sirdar Golab Singh, I have directed the Barukzye Sirdars to proceed with all the men they can collect, and oppose Chuttur Singh across the Indus. It is not unlikely that they may join his standard; if they do their jageers will aid the embarrassed exchequer, and at any rate it is better to have them as open foes than doubtful friends!

There are rumors that the Ameer of Cabul intends availing himself of the present disturbed state of affairs to make an effort for the recovery of this Province, but I do not credit them. Whatever his inclinations may be, he has too much sense to come again into collision with us. It however is true that he has of late been paying more attention to the muster and payment of his troops than hitherto, which may have given rise to the reports.

Received a note from Mr. Cocks of the 11th instant, up to which date no troops had moved from Jullunder or Lahore for this quarter. The old Governor can't make it out at all.

16th September 1848.—The Governor with all the Colonels and Commandants waited on me as usual both in the morning and evening.

I have directed Lieutenant Herbert to keep only three boats at Attock and to send all the rest to Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, to load with grain and send to Mooltan. It will keep them out of the hands of Chuttur Singh, who will be considerably puzzled to transport his troops to this side of the river, should it be his intention to do so; my regiments too will see that (*sic*).

By way of showing the Sikhs that I have not lost confidence in them, I have got a company of Ruttun Singh's regiment on duty at my resi-

dence, who furnish the sentries on the treasure and dwelling house. It is doubtless running a risk, but I think a necessary one, and will have a good effect.

The district is perfectly quiet, and I never had my orders more promptly or zealously executed.

From Cabul I have no recent intelligence, though the rumors still prevail that the Ameer meditates taking advantage of the state and feeling of the Sikh army. I however believe it not, and sleep quite comfortably.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No 37.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 17th, to Saturday, the 23rd September 1848.

17th September 1848.—The Governor and Deputy with all the Colonels were with me as usual. Purwannas from the Durbar arrived to the Governor and officers approving of their conduct; these I have ordered to be read to their men on parade to-morrow.

I have countermanded the march of the Barukzye Sirdars, finding they really had no troops on whom they could depend.

18th September.—The troops paraded for inspection in their respective cantonments, when the Durbar's purwannas were read to them, in presence of the Governor; all seemed much pleased and expressed their devotion to the State.

The Governor and officers, after the parade, paid their respects, and while sitting with me the post brought the Resident's letters of approval of the conduct of the force, which appeared to gratify them much.

Lieutenant Herbert reports a melancholy accident, with loss of life of 14 men, on the river Attock, one a Sergeant of the Sapper and Miner Corps. It seems he was sent with 4 or 5 Sappers and 60 Pathans by Captain Abbott to the Fort of Attock: the boat struck on the rocks and foundered; the Sergeant was taken up to the Fort, but the vital spark had fled.

19th September 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie I rode to Suchet Singh's cantonment, and through the lines of the Khas Dragoons and Uttur Singh's Sikh Regiment.

The Governor and officers were with me as usual. Shortly after they left, the Lahore post brought a letter from the Resident giving an account of a victory gained by our troops over the Mooltan rebels and a purwanna from the Durbar directing a Royal Salute to be fired, which I had done from three posts—the Cantonment, Fort, and Gor Khuttry—and directed the cause to be explained to the troops.

Some of the townspeople wished to illuminate, but I told them to wait till the victory was complete by the fall of the city and fort, which might now be shortly expected.

20th September.—Rode through the city and round by the cantonments; saw the Shere Dragoons at exercise.

Lieutenant Bowie visited the fort to serve out ordnance stores.

My eyes were so bad to-day that I was obliged to get Lieutenant Bowie to write my letters, riding in the morning did them no good.

A note from the Resident mentions that Chuttur Singh's younger sons, Autar and Tej Singh, were expected at Lahore; not at all likely!

I have received an answer from Raja Deena Nath to my two letters. He says, he finds his deputation to be a failure; that Sirdar Chuttur Singh has no idea whatever of coming in; he therefore wishes to know what I would recommend his doing, to which I replied, either join Lieutenant Nicholson or return to Lahore.

I have directed Lieutenant Herbert to pass on 400 or 500 leave-of-absence men, who have been detained for some time at Rawul Pindee, and are said to have been bought over. Though this is not unlikely, still I think it better they should join, for were I to prevent them, they would of course consider they were at liberty to offer their services to the Sirdar, and their brethren here would have good grounds of complaint against me. Of the two evils, therefore, I think I have chosen the least.

The Governor and all the officers were with me as usual morning and evening.

21st September 1848.—Rode through the city in the morning and home by the parades, where I found the drills going on as of old.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs, at which the Governor, Sirdar Kahn Singh, and all the officers attended.

I find I have omitted to mention that on the 19th, pursuant to the Resident's and Durbar's orders, I caused Royal Salutes to be fired from the Cantonment, the Fort, and Gor Khuttry, in honor of the victory gained at Mooltan by our troops over the rebels.

Sent 100 Barukzye Horse, under one of Sultan Mahomed's sons, to reinforce Lieutenant Nicholson.

22nd September.—The Officers and Governor attended as usual.

Received intelligence from Mr. Inglis of the defection of Raja Shere Sing and the Sikh Sirdars; directed the Dak Moonshee to keep back all letters for some days.

The Lahore Akhbar contains a full account of it; this too, I have suppressed, only telling the Governor and his son the news. Though startling, it has in no way surprised us, for we have long expected some such, and the only wonder is that it did not occur before.

I start Mrs. Lawrence and the children to-night under a strong Afghan escort, for Lahore, *viâ* Kohaut and Ghebe. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed sees her across the Indus, and thence his eldest son, "Kwaja Mahomed," proceeds on with her, he rejoining me; during his absence his son "Zukereea Khan" remains as a hostage with me.

Sirdar Golab Singh begs me strongly to urge on the Resident the expediency of not only immediately confiscating all the estates, jageers, and property of the rebel Sirdars, but the seizure and imprisonment of their families; half measures, he says, will no longer do.

23rd September.—My family started last night with Sirdar Sultan Mahomed and a large escort; their departure caused a great stir in the city, the ill-disposed giving out that Lieutenant Bowie and I had likewise gone. To counteract this, we rode through the chief streets, and on to Suchet Singh's cantonment; it was amusing to see how we were stared at.

Mrs. Thompson, not being in travelling condition, did not accompany my wife.

The Governor and all the officers with many Urbobs were with me as usual, the latter volunteering service.

Received a letter of 17th instant from Lieutenant Taylor, in which he gives an account of the defection of the Sikhs and of his having been directed to join Lieutenant Edwardes ; decidedly a judicious move.

The necessity of raising the siege of Mooltan, and the continued delay in troops advancing on this quarter, is likely to damage us much.

Our prospects of keeping this force in hand mainly depend on the movements of Sirdar Chuttur Singh. Should he invest Attock, or cross the river, it is impossible to hope the Sikh Regiments will stand fast ; but should he proceed towards Mooltan or Lahore, we may possibly for some time longer keep them to their allegiance.

Colonel Ameer Khan tells me that his Regiment (Nujeebs), express themselves much hurt at my sending my family away, as it evinced want of confidence in them, to which I replied that he might assure them that my motive was to render myself unshackled, so that I might stick to them as long as they stuck to me.

A news-letter from Cabul to the 18th instant contains nothing beyond the reported destruction of 400 Kazelbash Horse and Foot in the Hazara country, where they were collecting revenue. They had incautiously separated into small parties, which were attacked by the people, and all cut to pieces, only ten men escaping to tell the tale. The Ameer is represented as determined to bitterly avenge them without delay, and was collecting every disposable man to send to Bamian for that purpose.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 38.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 24th, to Saturday, the 30th September 1848.

24th September 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie rode through the city in the morning and evening to show ourselves as it was industriously given out by the ill-disposed that we had fled to Attock.

Last night a sepoy of Ram Sahaie's Nujeebs was murdered within 100 yards of my compound and of their Standard guard; it seems he left his guard two hours before daybreak, and was performing the offices of nature, when he was cut down; he must have badly wounded one of his assailants, for I traced the blood for a mile in the direction of the village of Nutteh. I offered a reward of 100 rupees for the apprehension, on conviction of the murderers (*sic*), for several must have been concerned.

Received a letter of the 20th instant from the Resident, from which I regret to see that it will still be a long time before we may hope to see British Troops cross the Jhelum.

25th September 1848.—The troops paraded on their respective parades. I deemed it prudent not to have a general parade, from the necessity of protecting the guns, over which I still keep 12 companies of Infantry.

With Lieutenant Bowie I rode down the lines and home through the city. The artillery horses were out at skeleton drill.

The Governor and all the officers attended as usual to pay their respects and make their reports.

Sirdar Zukereea Khan, son of Sultan Mahomed Khan, has taken up his residence in my grounds considering himself as a hostage for the safe arrival of my family at Lahore; he is a smart, intelligent young man.

I am rejoiced to hear from Mr. Inglis that the Fort of Govindghur is garrisoned by British Troops. The old Governor some time since told me to strongly urge its immediate occupation on the Resident; it would seem we have not been a bit too soon about it; this will be a considerable damper to the rebel cause.

The company on duty at my quarters from Colonel Ruttun Singh's Regiment has been relieved by one from Mehtab Singh's (Sikh) Corps.

26th September.—Rode with Lieutenant Bowie through the city morning and evening.

The Governor and all the officers with Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, were with me as usual, last evening and this morning. I caused to be read to them three Robakarees from the Resident in the matter of the defection of Raja Shere Singh and the force under his command. They

exhibited no surprise, and judging by their countenances it seemed to make no impression on them; the Robakaree announcing that the posts of the rebel officers should be filled up by the promotion of those who remained staunch gave evident satisfaction.

I have commenced the issue of pay to the leave-of-absence men taking a corps each morning; this will occupy eight or ten days. I will then disburse to the troops by wings, so that ere many have been paid we shall be able to see what Chuttur Singh's plans are and the troops will know that all will get in time.

I sent Colonel Alla Singh to Sirdar Peer Mahomed in the Doaba, to commit to his charge all the boats on the Lundee or Cabul river, so as to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy; the Sirdar readily undertook the charge and has secured them effectually.

27th September 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie I rode to the fort to serve out powder and lead to send to Captain Abbott in Huzara.

The Governor and all the officers were with me morning and evening. The Proclamation of the Durbar confiscating the estates of the rebel Sirdars seems to have disturbed them much as each have relatives among them.

Reports are rife that the troops at Bunnoo have murdered Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, and Colonel John Holmes. The dak from that quarter has been stopped for some days, but I can't place credence in the rumors, which have been doubtless spread by some sowars of Sirdar Syed Mahomed Khan, who have recently returned from Mooltan, whether with leave or without I can't ascertain, they having brought me no letter. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed is said to have stopped many of them at Kohaut.

Lieutenant Nicholson writes that Chuttur Singh's son, Autar Singh, had met with a repulse at the village of Sandpore, where he had endeavoured to make collections; many of his people were killed, and he forced to fly. A few such affairs would damage his cause greatly.

28th September.—With Lieutenant Bowie rode through the city to the parade ground of Suchet Singh's cantonment, on which I found Colonel Uttur Singh's Regiment of Infantry and the two Dragoon Corps at exercise. I saw each go through several manœuvres, which they did

very creditably. I rode in among the ranks of the Cavalry several times to put them right, which seemed to amuse them; it shows that at any rate they have no designs against me for they might have easily captured me.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry, which was numerously attended, the Governor and all the officers being present.

I have received offers of assistance in men from several Khyber Chiefs, which I have declined.

29th September 1848.—With Lieutenant Bowie rode through the city. A disturbance took place during the night among some of the Khuttries in which one of the Thannadars was struck. I caused 15 of the principal men engaged in it to be seized, and fined them pretty severely; they are evidently bitten by the revolutionary mania.

Colonels Bhaug Singh and Uttur Singh, Man, brought me a letter from their relative Colonel Bhoop Singh, in which he says that he is most anxious to join me with four or five officers, if I can give him a promise of indemnity for the past; that he had been forced into rebellion by the troops instigated by Colonels Bahadoor Singh and Richpaul Singh. Considering it of first-rate importance to break the rebel ranks, and that the arrival of so many officers would have a good effect on my own force, I hesitated not at once to give a promise of pardon to all who might come in, provided they had not been accessories to the murder of Commandant Canara.

Lieutenant Nicholson has long urged me to send him a troop of Artillery to strengthen Attock, but considering that in the present feverish state of the troops the despatch of guns might bring on a collision, which hitherto has been happily avoided, I declined. The Governor however telling me to-day that I might do so without danger, I have ordered off Futteh Khan's troop, all Mahomedans, with five guns; they start at 2 A.M. under escort of two companies of Ram Sahaie's and two of Mahomedan Ramgoles, with 100 Khyberees. General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Ruttun Singh will accompany them six or seven miles, and see them well past Uttur Singh's Sikh Regiment, which is the most doubtful of all my force. It will be a good test if they stand it; however, nothing risk, nothing gain is my motto.

30th September 1848.—I am happy in being able to record that the troops marched as directed without the slightest opposition, though it must have been very galling to the Sikhs to see them pass, knowing they were to be used against their countrymen. The old Governor I find went a considerable distance with them. This troop's march is a gratifying proof that, whatever their inclinations may be, I have still the soldiery in hand, and if our troops are only moved up to the Jhelum within the next 20 days, this fine force of nearly 9,000 men, with 30 guns and no less than nine forts, may be held to their allegiance, no inconsiderable matter I should think when it is considered that these are by far the best disciplined and appointed troops in the Khalsa army.

The Governor and officers were with me as usual. General Elahee Buksh and Colonel Ruttun Singh returned at 10 A.M. I must say that all the officers appear most anxious to keep their troops to their allegiance. To encourage them in doing this I have told them that I would beg the Resident to suspend for one month proceeding against the families of their next of kin, who have joined the rebel cause, to give them time to recall them to their duty ; they naturally say if their sons and brothers, wives, etc., are disgraced, the shame falls equally on them, and, if so, what object have they in remaining staunch.

I have no intelligence from the west. Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan is trying hard to get my sanction to his remaining at Kohaut, with the ostensible view of coercing the people of Illaqua Tehree, but I have told him that he must postpone this to a more propitious season, that just now he must remain with me.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,

Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 39.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 8th, to Saturday, the 14th October 1848.

8th October 1848.—Paragraphs 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th—Destroyed and effaced.

9th October.—Last evening the Governor sent to me to say that it would be better to countermand the parade for to-morrow, as he had

heard that some of the regiments intended to take the opportunity to make a rush upon the guns; the orders were accordingly issued.

Three troops of Artillery received pay this morning; there is a good deal of talk among the men as to my doling it forth so leisurely; some say it is on account of the proximity of Chuttur Singh, others that Hoondies from Lahore having failed to arrive I am trying to raise cash in the bazar; at any rate, say they, we shall get it in the long run, which the troops on the other side of the water can't expect to do.

Lieutenant Bowie rode to the Gor Khuttry and Fort to serve out ammunition and stores.

Letters from Chuttur Singh to the officers calling on them to join him arrive hourly. General Elahee Buksh sent me one just now to his address and that of Colonels Meer Khan and Meer Jung Ali; the messenger I have confined and feel disposed to make an example of, but am deterred lest it should prevent others being sent me.

Colonels Kahn Singh and Uttur Singh have accounted for their absence from my Durbar on Saturday evening on the plea of being intoxicated, and the former looks as if he had been drinking hard. I have given them their khilluts, though they little deserve them. Uttur Singh read me the answer he has received from Colonel Bhoop Singh, which is that as Chuttur Singh intends to march on Peshawur it would be better he should remain with him for the present, the fact of *

he expects in the next 10 or 15 days *

are in motion or not * Reports are abroad that Lieutenant Nicholson is gone to Lahore. I trust it is so, for we are anxious about him, not having had a line since the 1st. The Governor, Deputy and all the Colonels were with me this morning with the daily reports and in my room attached their seals to a letter to Sirdar Chuttur Singh telling him that if he could produce to them Dhuleep Singh's or the Durbar's warrant for his proceedings, or if he would go and possess himself of Lahore and Umritsur, that they would hold this Province for the Sirkar, but that to give up to the Mahomedans what had cost the Khalsas so much blood and treasure merely on his bare word they would on no account do. Sirdar Kahn Singh and all the Ghorechurra officers with the Barukzye Sirdars added their seals; we shall see what the reply will be.

10th October 1848.—We took our usual ride this morning.

* Manuscript incomplete.

The Governor, Deputy and all the Officers attended with the usual reports.

3rd paragraph—Destroyed and effaced.

11th October 1848.—Last night the Governor awoke me to tell me that it had been reported to him that Mehtab Singh's regiment intended to march during the night; all were on the alert for some hours, but it turned out a false alarm. In the morning the Colonel and all the Subedars waited on me and complained indignantly at the report against the regiment, requesting that the man who told the Governor should be punished. I applauded their just indignation and said investigation should be made.

The Governor, Deputy and most of the Colonels attended. Kahn Singh, Rosa, of the Khas Dragoons is again recusant, saying he is afraid to attend my Durbar lest I should imprison him. The Governor still advises me not to appear to notice it, which goes much against the grain.

We have had no accounts of or from Lieutenant Nicholson, which rather alarms us. He was last heard of near Pind Dadun Khan.

The boats on the Lundee or Cabul river I have had collected and placed under charge of Sirdar Peer Mahomed, whom I hold responsible for their safe keeping. Sent my Head Moonshee out this morning to see that he was present and had a good guard over them, for Chuttur Singh would give much to get hold of them. The Moonshee reports that they are all right, but rather loosely guarded.

12th October.—Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and officers. Reports are rife of our troops having marched from Lahore towards the Jhelum, and it is said to have caused the rebels to move their camp from Shumshabad towards Huzroo. Autar Singh writes to his father not to waste his time on the Indus but to make the best of his way towards Lahore. Colonel Alla Singh tells me to mention to the Resident to have a good watch kept at Jullunder on the Sodees, that Baba Bickram Singh will do all the mischief he can. It is already reported here that he is up in arms and defeated our troops. The latter report is false.

3rd paragraph—Destroyed and effaced.

13th October 1848.—1st and 2nd paragraphs—Destroyed and effaced.

It is with deep regret I have to record the murder at Bunnoo of Futteh Khan, Tiwanah, which is reported to have occurred eight days after that of Colonel Holmes. For half that period they got a scanty supply of water, which failing, the men with him in twos and threes let themselves down by ropes among the Sikh troops, who merely disarmed them; last of all Futteh Khan followed, but with three or four of his followers was immediately cut to pieces. Fortunately his son had proceeded a short time previously to join Lieutenant Nicholson with some horse, and so has escaped. The force is said to be still at Bunnoo and undecided whether to move towards Mooltan or Attock; they have sent parties to bring in the treasure from Lukkee, which had arrived for the pay, and to Esa Khail to take possession of the boats and grain collected there by the poor Khan.

14th October 1848.—I have not ridden out for a day or two in consequence of hearing that it was plotted by some of the Colonels to waylay and either seize or murder us. As the execution of such a plot would naturally create a riot, I deemed it as well to keep to the Residency grounds.

The Governor and several of the officers attended as usual; the absentees are the disaffected. The Governor still advises biding our time in regard to them, which I have agreed to do though not in accordance with my own views. He tells me that Chuttur Singh has sent his sword and head-dress to Sirdar Kahn Singh, Mujeetea, invoking him by them and all he holds sacred to join his cause. The Sirdar asked what he should do. "Give him a direct refusal," replied Pohvindea, "for is not his weakness apparent when he is so abject in thus applying." This was accordingly done.

I have no recent news from the west.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

No. 40.—Political Diary of Major George St. P. Lawrence, Principal Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General, North-West Frontier, at Peshawur, from Sunday, the 15th, to Saturday, the 21st October 1848.

15th October 1848.—The Governor with a few of the Colonels waited on me with the daily reports.

I regret to record that it is bruited abroad that I cannot depend on the Mussulman or Nujeeb Corps, for that, should the Sikhs attempt to take the guns, they will not oppose them; this is a bad look out, still I will not despair and give them a trial at any rate.

16th October 1848.—The troops were inspected on their respective parades by their Colonels, the Cavalry and Artillery dismounted.

The Governor, Deputy, with Sirdar Kahn Singh and all the Colonels but Kahn Sing, Rosa, waited on me with the daily reports. Alla Singh mentions that Colonels Mehtab Singh, Ram Singh, Kahn Singh, Rosa, and Bhaug Singh are conspiring together for mischief. Ram Singh is my Tahseeldar and lives in the Gor Khuttry; I have ordered him to change quarters into my compound and have had the treasure-chest moved into the fort.

Despatched a Havildar of Ruttun Singh's Corps as a *cossid* with letters to the Resident; he promises to reach in six days and return in a like number. I once more represented the necessity for the advance of our troops, if it was considered desirable that this force should continue in allegiance.

The Khas Dragoons and Uttur Singh's Regiment are reported to have packed up and got rid of their extra *atta*, ready to move to-night; that Chuttur Singh wrote them till they made one march he would not believe they intended to join him; the Governor has sent for the Colonels to talk to them.

17th October.—Lieutenant Bowie rode to Suchet Singh's cantonment and found Uttur Singh's regiment at exercise: saw them go through some manœuvres; the order for march seems to have been postponed. Colonels Mehtab Singh, Uttur Singh and Bhaug Singh last night took their oaths before the Governor that they would prove faithful.

Colonel Alla Singh brought Kahn Singh, Rosa, to me, who says that his only reason for absenting himself arose from fear; he is of course aware that his evil designs are known, and therefore dreads my seizing him.

The Governor and officers were with me morning and evening as usual; the former with Sirdar Kahn Singh has written to Sirdar Chuttur Singh that he need not think to get this force to join him, so that he is only losing his time in waiting. We have arranged that the Colonels shall daily write in pairs similar letters.

Sirdar Sultan Mahomed Khan being slow in furnishing the Horse and Foot I ordered, I sent my Moonshee to tell him that he would only injure himself by so acting; that he must either be with me or against me, no middle course would do, and that he must not fancy I should, in acting, take into any consideration his having my family in his hands; that I should do my duty in all respects, without reference to them.

18th October 1848.—Lieutenant Bowie rode to the fort and through the city.

Colonel Ruttun Singh's Sikh Regiment were paid yesterday and to-day. I took the opportunity to explain to them that up to the present I was well pleased with them, and that if they continued thus true to their salt, they should benefit by the promotions consequent on the misconduct of the other corps.

An answer has arrived from Sirdar Chuttur Singh to the letter from the Sirdar and officers; in it he takes no notice of their demand for a sight of his orders from the Maharaja for the nature of his present proceedings, etc., but says what he is doing is for their religion; that if they have any regard for it, or for the Khalsa salt they have so long eaten, they should show it by joining him.

The Bunnoo troops are said to be directed to march on Wuzeerabad, where the rebels purpose concentrating their forces. I have written to Colonel Bishen Singh, Raja Tej Singh's relative, that if he likes to separate his regiment (Mahomedans) from the rest and join me, I shall be happy to receive him.

19th October.—I am trying to drill 200 Afghan horse that I have enlisted as a personal escort; my Pathan Regiment, five companies of which are here and three at Attock, are getting on well. In addition to them I have assembled about 2,000 matchlockmen exclusive of those the Barukzyes may bring. I should like to get the guns into my compound, but this the Governor objects to, saying it would disgust the regiments in charge of them.

Held my weekly Durbar of Urbobs and gentry, which is now a matter of form, as they all come to my daily Durbar. They seem most anxious to please me, but I can see have little confidence in their people being able to oppose the Sikhs; their hourly enquiry is, "why do not your troops advance?"

Yesterday we were delighted at the arrival of four daks from Lahore, thinking that they would give us the long hoped for intelligence of the advance. Our disappointment was bitter on reading a note from the Resident full of sympathy and anxiety for us, but saying "*I am* powerless to send troops." Why he should be so, we cannot understand, with the army that now is at Lahore, Ferozepoor and its vicinity. I find it most difficult to reply to the Governor's anxious enquiries as to when he may hope for aid from our Government; he evidently begins to look upon himself as sacrificed. The gloomiest day has some light; hearing from Mr. Inglis that Lieutenant Nicholson had reached Ramnugger *en route* to Lahore, gave us a gleam of hope, as we trust that his representations will do what all our writing has failed in doing, *viz.*, cause a speedy advance of British Troops, for no one can know better than he the absolute necessity of it.

I hear that the Sikh Regiments have resolved on starting to join Chuttur Singh as soon as Uttur Singh's Corps have received their pay; they seem not to consider how they can cross the Indus without boats or rafts. I understand they are to take me with them if they can, and have made the Sirdar promise not only not to injure but to cause me to be conveyed to Lahore.

20th October 1848.—The Governor and all the officers waited on me with the daily reports, the disaffected Colonels among the number. Hearing that one of them had ridden to the Cabul river to look for a ford, I have written to Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan to have the boats removed higher up the river to a point where the Sikhs will be afraid to go after them.

Lieutenant Herbert writes from Attock that he hears the rebel force under Chuttur Singh attacked the previous day Captain Abbott's position at Nara, and were repulsed with considerable loss; if this be true it may be of use to us.

I am now issuing the pay to two companies daily to make it last longer; this of course is not pleasing to the men, but 'tis necessary. Hearing that a Sikh calling himself a disciple of Bhaie Maharaj had arrived with a warrant calling on all good Sikhs to attend to his summons, and that he was located in Uttur Singh's lines, I directed the Governor either to have him seized or turned out; he was lodged in the fort during the night, but as yet I have not been able to get the warrant, which, of course, is a forgery

21st October 1848.—Lieutenant Bowie rode to the fort to serve out stores, and my Moonshee took out my escort to drill.

The Governor and Deputy with Sirdar Kahn Singh and most of the Colonels waited on me as usual with the daily reports. Colonel Kahn Singh, Rosa, was absent.

Sirdar Peer Mahomed Khan reports having moved the boats as directed.

I completed this morning the issue of pay to Mehtab Singh's Regiment.

At my evening Durbar I held out hopes of being able to get by Hoondie pay for the troops for the two months already due, which would be in process of issue ere long. I also said that if any corps mutinied I should hold the officers answerable, as till they gave the impulse, the men I knew would not move; this caused some of the Colonels to look rather blue.

As Sirdar Sultan Mahomed had not been near me for some time I sent for him; he is as full of professions as ever, but their sincerity I greatly doubt, and am sure that if Chuttur Singh crossed the river he would join him. I took the opportunity of his being with me to muster my levies to the amount of 2,600 men, so that he might see I was independent of his aid! I fancy he thinks he has me entirely in his power in having my family, but I hope to show him his mistake ere long.

I am happy here in being able to record that though the 2,600 men now living in my compound are from all the tribes, many deadly enemies of each other, not a theft or brawl has occurred, a thing quite unprecedented in the annals of Peshawur. I have men from the Khyber, Afreedees, Ourakzyes, Janakorees, Kohauttees, Momunds, Khulleels, Daoudzyes, Kuttuckees, Eusufyes and even to Swat and Boonayr. The Urbobs declare they should have thought it impossible that I could so have got the better of them; for the first night or two they screamed and yelled as is their custom in war, but ceased immediately I ordered them; the Sikhs cannot understand it

The district is perfectly tranquil; from 2,000 to 3,000 Eusufzyes under their Khans are watching the movements of the rebels on the

opposite side of the river, in conjunction with Colonel Dhun Raj and three companies of Ramgoles. The Bunnoo force is said to be marching on Wuzeerabad. I am sure I hope so, and wish Chuttur Singh would do the same.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
Principal Asst. to the Agent, G.-G., N.-W. F.

Names of Sikh Officers in the Peshawur Regiments which mutinied on the 23rd October 1848.

Officers	Regiment
Colonel Kahn Singh, Rosa, and son, Commandant Sahib Singh, Poola, ,, Mirza Rahmutoola, Putta, Adjutant Ruttun Singh, Kihava, Major Jowahir Singh,	Khas Dragoons.
Colonel Bhaug Singh, Man, Commandant Thakoor Singh, Seraia, ,, Gopal Singh, Jummoo. Adjutant Jode Singh, ,, Futteh Singh, Kang,	Shere Dragoons.

Major Ummur Singh.
Colonel Mehtab Singh, Moraria.
Commandant Ram Singh.
,, Bugwan Singh, Jubel.
Adjutant Julla Singh, Jumshere.
Colonel Ruttun Singh, Man, with me.
Commandant Lehna Singh; his son, not with me.
Adjutant Soojan Singh, Baporaria.
Colonel Uttur Singh, Man.
Commandant Gehar Singh, Doaba.
,, Assah Singh, Pudree.

Adjutant Pertab Singh, Man, Bhaug Singh's son: Ramgole Adjutant, Heera Singh, Doaba: Ghorechurra, Rumma Singh, Bahadoornuggur, all his *Missul.*

All the families should be at once seized; jageers confiscated.

GEO. ST. P. LAWRENCE, MAJOR,
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